

INSIDE THE TABLOID NETWORK+ HOW TO TALK TO A COMPUTER

IN THE TABLOID HRT: A YOUNG **WOMAN'S**



COMMENT PAGE 15 DISNEY AND

WEATHER: Sunshine and showers (IR45p) 40p

Britain's mission possible

TUESDAY 13 MAY 1997

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Strong support for human rights and a rejection of Conservative isolationism were yesterday laid down by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary as he took British foreign policy into a new era. Flanked by his new ministerial team, Mr Cook told a press conference: "Our foreign policy must have an ethical dimension and must support the demands of other peoples for the democratic rights on which we insist

"The Labour Government will put human rights at the heart of our foreign policy and will publish an annual report on our work in promoting human rights abroad."

The Foreign Secretary said that would include efforts to clamp down on the exploitation of child labour, by international agreement with individual countries like India and through multilateral trade agreements and through tough economic sanctions against brutal regimes

As for the arms trade, Mr Cook said that although Britain was one of the Big Four armstrading nations, the Government would not allow the sale of arms for internal repression or external aggression, and when an embargo was put in place, every effort would be made to ensure that other countries did not step in to provide alternative sources of supply.

Mr Cook has already heralded a "fresh start" in relations with the European Union, but he said vesterday that he wanted to reverse "the Tory trend toward not-so-splendid isolation".

The Foreign Secretary's mesze – backed up by a David Puttnam video to be sent out to more than 200 foreign posts caused embarrassment around Whitehall, because it caught other departments unprepared.

Unveiling his Foreign Of-fice "mission statement", Mr Cook said: "Every modern business starts with a mission statement that sets clear objectives.

New Labour is determined to bring a businesslike approach to government and today, only 10 days into our term of office,



New arena: Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and his ministerial team in the Locarno Room in the Foreign Office yesterday Photograph: Peter Macdiannid

Commonwealth Office.

But there was little sign of other government departments following Mr Cook's business-

like approach. Although Gordon Brown, Chancelior of the Exchequer. went to the Treasury with a new mission statement already drafted, including the basic commitment to high and stable levels of growth and employment, a number of departments were nonplussed last night

I am launching a new mission by questions about their state- the Foreign and Common- The only notable difference the Foreign Secretary's "mis-

Labour ministers have inherited existing aims and objectives left by their Tory predecessors. Under the Tories, the Foreign Office's "Mission" had been: To enhance the security of the United Kingdom and the Dependent Territories, to promote their prosperity and protect British interests and influence overseas, and to protect British nationals abroad." Mr Cook's replacement

statement said: "The Mission of

national interests of the United Kingdom and to contribute

to a strong world community." It would be pursued to secure four benefits: security and prosperity, as well as "mutual respect", which included spreading the values of human rights and civil liberties; and "quality of life", which included a commitment to "work with others to protect the world's environment and to counter the menace of drugs, terrorism and crime."

and Labour statements was the Europe dealt with enlargement omission of the "transatlantic of the EU and completion of the relationship" in Mr Cook's new

mission statement. But he told the press conference: "Britain will be a more valuable and more valued ally of America if we do actually emerge as a leading partner within Europe, because a Britain which does not have influence in Europe will be of less interest to Washington."

It was also notable that while Leading article, page 13

Or a graveyard of good intent?

It was the day New Labour stormed the stuffiest citadel of Whitehall, turning the marble and chandeliered splendour of the Locarno Rooms at the Foreign Office into Blackpool's Winter Gardens. And Robin Cook's mission statement could have been an October conference keynoter, full of splendid promises untested by sordid economic and political reality.

Take the "ethical dimension" the Foreign Secretary insisted that Britain, that supreme pragmatist among nations, must henceforth give its foreign policy – as a beaming Tony Blair and a beatific Nelson Mandela looked down from the video screen behind him.

"The national interest cannot be defined only by narrow realpolitik," Mr Cook declared, nor could "political values be left behind when we check in our passports to travel on diplomatic business

But will the Government really put its money where its mouth is, meting out economic punishment to regimes with dubious human rights records
- if that means losing business
to less squeamish competitors?
The most obvious area of ten-

sion is arms exports, where Britain currently ranks only behind the United States. Ideally, ostracism would be global. But nothing leaks like sanctions orders are at stake.

So how will Mr Cook's noble goal square with protecting the 200,000 British jobs that depend on the arms industry, especially when component number two of the Foreign Office's stat-ed mission (behind only global security) is to help exports and jobs at home? Yesterday's answer was less than convincing. Precisely because its defence industry was so strong, he argued, Britain had a responsibility in

regulating the arms trade. And will Britain help the "child slaves" in south Asian sweatsiaves in south Asian swear-shops, if that means pushing up the price of playground footballs here, or bar cheap consumer goods from China, if they are manufactured by prisoners or political detainees?

Mr Cook sidestepped some other uncomfortable questions too, among them the precise nature of that much-touted "leading role in Europe" alongside France and Germany. Yes, of course Labour's tone has changed, but exactly where would a nicer but nonetheless Euro-shy Britain lead its part-



ners? Federalism was waning in Europe; he answered.

ished and seamless as the video presentation about the "Fresh Start for Britain" which had gone before. Sitting alongside the four junior ministers on the rostrum was the Permanent Under-Secretary Sir John Coles, the FO's top civil servant. As the show progressed, his face betrayed no emotion. Simple professional restraint, or silent recognition that, with the best will in the world, diplomacy, like life, can be a graveyard of good intentions

Clergy take to the catwalk

Clare Garner

RYOUR

It is the Spring/Summer '97 Cleric Collection. In Britain's first fashion show for church ministers, men and women of the cloth will be strutting their stuff on the catwalk and spreading the word that God and fashion go well together.

Ten clerics have been selected to model multi-coloured designer cassocks, stoles and copes at the 13th National Christian Resources Exhibition at Sandown Park, in Esher, Surrey, next Tuesday. The outfits, by leading textile designers, reinterpret traditional symbolism and colours in a range of modern styles. The Rev Andrew Roberts, a

Methodist minister for Kingswinford and Worsley churches, in the West Midlands, will be making his modelling debut. The 33-year-old will be sporting his £550 "dream suit", designed by Juliet Hemingway. "Nobody else could wear my

suit because it's made to measure - much to my wife's delight," he said. "She thinks it's quite fun being married to a male model now." Ms Hemingway, who made

the enthronement robes for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and a waistcoat for Sir Cliff Richard, began designing clerics' garh 17 years ago, when a friend asked her to brighten up his black preaching scarf. Her "textile approach to the parables" re- of Newcastle.

flects the Victorians' colourful handstitched imagery of pome-

granates, grapes and flames. Mr Roberts' extravagant suit, with its lavish gold fish symbols on the shoulders, wins him many compliments. "People are pleasantly surprised when they turn up and see a trendy minister wearing all this garb, he said. "Someone not wearing three shades of grey, which to me seems to be a contradiction of God's creativity and life"

The Rev Mike Starkey, vicar of St John's Church in Finsbury Park, north London, and author of Fashion & Style, a book which asks "Is it a sin to look good?" believes church fashion is about to turn full circle. He anticipates a rejection of the recent trend for casually-dressed clergy and a return to the vibrant regalia of the past.
"Quite a lot of people, par-

ticularly evangelicals, have turned against the vestments in the last 20 years because they have seen formal," he said. But now a whole generation of cals who are rebelling

into tradition ... The Rev Barbara Knight, 50, curate at St George's Parish in Norton, Hertfordshire, is one of two female models in the show. She will be donning garments designed by J&M Sewing



Role model: The Rev Andrew Roberts dons his 'dream suit' in preparation for the cieries' show Photograph: Keith Dobney I of mergers and takeovers in the

The whisky galore merger

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Two of Britain's leading drinks companies caught the stock market by surprise yesterday when they agreed a £20bn mega-merger that will create the

world's largest spirits group. The deal brings together Guinness and Grand Metropolitan to form a new company, GMG Brands. It will be the worlds' seventh largest food and drinks group, behind giants such as Coca-Cola, Pepsico and McDonald's. With a stock market value of £21bn, it will also be the United Kingdom's eighth largest company.

Hatched over a dinner between the two chairmen a month ago, the deal brings together a breathtaking collection of major brands which include Guinness's Bell's scotch whisky and Gordon's gin and Grand Met's Smirnoff vodka, J&B whisky and Bailey's liqueur.

It also unites Grand Met's food interests, which include the Burger King restaurants and Haagen Dazs ice cream, with Guinness Brewing Worldwide. which produces the famous stout.

The new company confirmed that there would be around 2,000 job losses from its combined total of 85,000. However, it said these would be spread around the world with no single country bearing the brunt. The deal could signal a wave

fragmented spirits industry which has been plagued by stagnant sales volumes and an inability to raise prices in mature markets in industrialised countries. Grand Met's chairman, George Bull, said: "Scale is critical to compete globally in these markets today.

single market, there was no

mention of economic and mon-

challengers for the Conservative

leadership, said: "He [Mr Cook]

be leading in Europe. Yet all

he has done is to surrender

more of our rights to self-gov-

tells us that Britain will now

John Redwood, one of the

etary union.

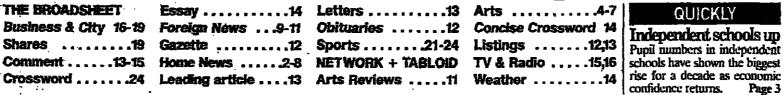
This is a win-win situation." . It could also lead to higher spirits prices, although both Guinness and Grand Metropolitan denied this yesterday. The Consumers' Association said it would be looking at the deal. The merger still has to be cleared by the European regulatory authorities.

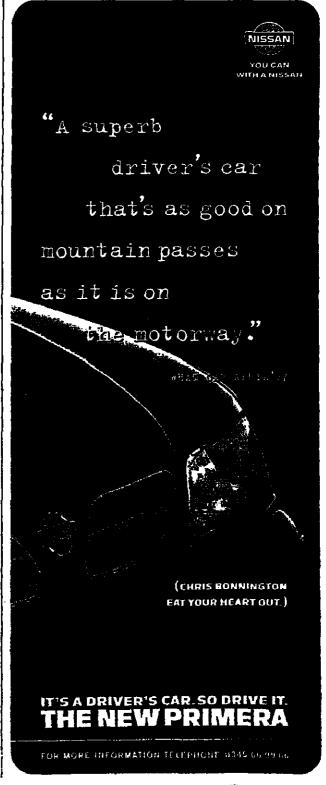
GMG Brands will account for almost 10 per cent of world spirits sales, which total 2.2 billion cases. It will have a turnover of almost £13bn and profits of £2.2bn. Shareholders in the two groups will receive a spe-cial dividend of at least 60p per share as GMG Brands plans to return £2.4bn of cash to them.

The deal means the Guinness name will disappear as a corporate identity after nearly 250 years. Founded in Dublin in 1759 it changed its name to Guinness from Arthur Guinness & Sons in 1985. A year later it launched the controversial bid for United Distillers which subsequently led to the jailing of the then chairman, Ernest Saunders. Shares in both companies

rose yesterday as the City welcomed the merger. Full story, page 16

Comment, page 17







THE BROADSHEET

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significant shorts

Director of homes for the disabled guilty of neglect

A director of two private homes for mentally disabled people was yesterday convicted of wilfully neglecting residents in her care.

Angela Rowe. 39, was found guilty of wilful neglect by denying adequate toiletries and rationing toilet paper. Kingston Crown Court had heard residents would sometimes have to use curtains to

Court had heard residents would sometimes have to use curtams to wipe themselves when the toilet paper run out.

Rowe, of Windsor, Berkshire, faces two further counts of ill-treating patients at Stoke Place, Mansion House and Stoke Green House in Stoke Poges, Buckinghamsing. The charges cover a 10-year period, from when the first home opened in 1983, to 1993.

The jury also convicted one of Rowe's senior care supervisors of the mentally disabled residents. For a present the field

ill-treating one of the mentally disabled residents. Lorraine Field. 42. of Stoke Poges. Buckinghamshire, was found guilty of repeatedly slapping Christopher Queffucous, who was blind, across the back of his head as he cowered in a chair.

Desmond Tully, 33, who now runs a home near Exeter, Devon, was found not guilty of one charge against him on Friday. He also faces three further counts of ill-treatment. The jury will return today to consider the eight outstanding charges. Judge John Baker had earlier directed them to find the defendants not guilty of another four charges of ill-treatment.

Angry fisherman block Sullom Voe

Fourteen small fishing boats yesterday blockaded the entrance to Europe's biggest oil terminal, Sullom Voe in Shetland, in protest over compensation for a huge oil spill.

Shetland Islands Council, the harbour authority for the terminal, said it would commence civil and criminal court actions against the

shellfish boats if they did not depart today and allow the free passage of supertankers. The boats' crews and skippers are angry about the ending of compensation payments 20 months ago by the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund.

Their livelihoods are still harmed by restrictions on catching shellfish in waters off western Shetland, due to oil pollution from the wreck of the tanker Braer four years ago. Sullom Voe played no part in that oil spill, when the tanker, sailing from Norway drifted on to cliffs and lost her cargo of crude.

Filming to start on Elizabeth I epic



An £18m film charting the early life of Elizabeth I will start filming in Britain in August, it

was announced today.
The film, Elizabeth I, will be made by Working Title Films. the same company that made Four Weddings and a Funeral and the Oscar-winning Fargo. It will be released in autumn 1998 with a major international actress in the central role. No decision has yet been

made on who will play the virgin queen, but Britain's Kate Winslet (pictured) is a possible contender. Filming will take place at locations throughout Britain, including Hampton Court, the

Tower of London and possibly Hever Castle in Kent.

Tim Bevan, co-chairman of Working Title Films will produce the film, which will be directed by Shekhar Kapur, who also directed The Bandit Overn.

Jumbo door fault at 21.000 feet

Alarmed cabin crew persuaded a British Airways captain to return to Gatwick airport after a faulty door on a jumbo jet started to move towards the open position at 21,000ft, it was revealed today.

Cabin crew members had to hold on to the door handle as the captain guided the Boeing 747, with 306 passengers on board. safely back, an Air Accidents Investigation Branch report said.

The flight crew knew there was a problem with the door but engineers had cleared it before the flight on 2 November, 1996. But the door handle was seen to rotate after take-off and cabin crew struggled to keep it in the closed position. The aircraft dumped 46 tonnes of fuel and landed safely. BA said yesterday: "At no time were any passengers or crew in any danger and the inherent design of the door prevents its opening in flight."

Man charged over takeaway murder

A Turkish man appeared in court in Chelmsford, Essex, yesterday, charged with murder after a man's body was found in a derelict takeaway restaurant in Maldon. Vedat Kayretli, 24, was remanded in custody for four weeks and ordered to appear before Chelmsford magistrates on 9 June. He is accused of murdering Fevzi Demir, 35, between 15 September last year and 21 April.

Inquiry into deaths of elderly in care

Police are carrying out an inquiry into the death of five elderly nursing home patients, it was confirmed last night.

It followed complaints over alleged mistreatment and neglect against staff at the private Forebank Nursing Home in Dundee. The inquiry into the home, owned by millionaire businessman Peter Marr, is at the request of the procurator fiscal.

A spokesman for Tayside Police said: "Inquiries are being conducted at the request of the procurator fiscal concerning several complaints received regarding the treatment of residents within the Forebank Nursing Home."

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BACK ESSUES Sack states of the independent are available from: papers, telephone 01988 340370,



Asil Nadir: The former Polly Peck chief tells Roger Cook of his plans (Photograph: Cartton)

Nadir vows to return and fight to clear his name

action this week against the Serious Fraud Of-fice, claiming a breach of legal process. The former boss of the collapsed Polly Peck In-

ternational conglomerate says his lawyers will seek com-pensation from British authorities for millions of dollars in company shares he claims he lost during the sev-en years since investigations against him began.

A successful action by Mr Nadir would lead the avenue open for other Polly Peck shareholders to sue the SFO and other law agencies for their losses. In an interview with the ITV programme The Cook

Report, Mr Nadir also maintains he is prepared to return to this country to clear his name.

He is making his legal move following the successful appeal against conviction of his former adviser, Elizaboth Forsyth, two months ago, Mrs Forsyth is said to have returned voluntarily from Cyprus in 1994, as a "stalling horse". The theory was that if she walked free, Mr Nadir would return to London.

ugitive financier Asil Nadir is due to jaunch a court has no extradition treaty, in May 1993, after a two-anda-half-year SFO investigation resulted in charges that he had stolen £30m from Polly Peck and had taken part in false accounting.

Mr Nadir is said to be much encouraged by the Court of Appeal ruling. He has instructed his solicitor, Peter Knight, of the London firm Vizards, to institute pro-

The action is expected to hinge on four sets of allegations. One is that Mr Nadir's defence papers were removed during raids on his premises by the SFO. These papers were then passed on to various law agencies, thus compromising his defence.

It is also alleged that Michael Francis, a police informer with a conviction for attempted murder, and a timeshare roman, Wendy Welsher, were employed by police and the SFO to discredit Mr Nadir by implicating him in a fake "plot" to bribe the trial judge, Mr Justice Tucker. Mr Nadir's lawyers are also expected to claim that the Ar Nadir would return to London.

He had fied to Northern Cyprus, with which the UK

businessman would not get a fair trial because of the deluge of publicity over the case.

Kim Sengupta

Swimmer makes crossing from Cuba to Florida

Exhausted but beaming, Susie Maroney, a 22-year-old Australian, last night stepped ashore at Key West, on the southernmost tip of the US, after becoming at least the first woman to swim the Florida Straits from Cuba. She and her back-up team say she is the first person to make the crossing, but some record books say a man called Walter Poenisch did it near-

ly 20 years ago. Swimming inside a floating antishark cage, towed by a boat, Maroney crossed the treacherous waters, one of the world's great swimming challenges, in 25 hours, far less than the 40 hours she had predicted. Southerly winds picked up her speed.

Havana, where she plunged from the Malecon promenade (right) in front of bemused Cubans more accustomed to seeing their countrymen flee on rafts, is just over 90 miles from Key West. But the Australian probably swam more than 100 miles because of winds and currents.

After swimming the last 200 yards outside her cage, Maroney was helped ashore in front of a small group of applauding tourists. "Welcome to America," said one. "I'm really happy, it's a dream I've always had," she said.

Her next plan? "Just a rest." But she is expected to tackle the 30mile swim around New York's Manhattan Island.



Relatives and aides in the boat towing her cage said they had used satellite photos and infrared images to select the best route. Even the anti-shark cage was state of the art.

During her last attempt at the Straits last June, Maroney, Australia's long-distance swimming champion, was thrown against the cage, injuring her arms and wrists. She opted to swim outside the cage for 10 hours on that occasion but this time her aides advised her to stay inside after seeing two curl-

ous sharks approach. She gave up last year's attempt 12 miles short of the Florida Keys. Yesterday, she made it, after treading water every five hours to drink high-protein, superhydrating drinks and nibble on baby food, yoghurt and crushed bananas.

Phil Davison, Miami

Walker killed by lightning strike

A young man was killed by lightning as he and his girlfriend took a stroll at a cliff-top beauty spot. Stewart lbbetson, 22, of Horsforth, Leeds, died instantly when a violent storm erupted. Julia Wright, his 24-year-old girifriend, was blown off her feet and suffered burns to her face and legs.

The couple tried to dodge the showers during a day out at Flamborough Head, near Bridlington, East Yorkshire, but had nowhere to shelter when the storm struck on Sunday night. A large crowd of walkers on the

cliff-top, between the lighthouse and a fog signalling station, went to the couple's aid, but were unable to help. The Humberside Police heli-

copter was called in to airlift Miss Wright to Hull Royal Infirmary. She was transferred to the Kingston . General Hospital, Hull and was said to be in a "comfortable" condition yesterday.

Chief Insp Colin Fleming of Humberside Police said: "This was a tragic event. They could not have known that the weather was going to change so quickly.

The area they were walking in is extremely exposed on the clifftop. It had been overcast all

day and suddenly a violent storm broke out for a short period. The area is very popular with day visitors and a large crowd be-gan to gather very quickly. But there was nothing anyone could

briefing

FINANCE

Customers benefit from rise of 'branchless bank'

The rise of the "branchless bank" has benefited most customers and retailers, such as supermarkets, who have entered the mancial market, according to a new report. Nearly one in five branches disappeared between 1989 and 1995.

Banks and building societies have been reducing the number of branches since the mid 1980s, although the process accelerated in the early-1990s recession.

"At-a-distance" banking has brought many benefits to customers, researchers from Bristol University found. For example, telephone banking is convenient and accessible, and lower operating costs. mean such banks are able to offer highly competitive rates of

But low-income families have suffered because of this. The study, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, found that closures were more likely to happen in poorer areas, whereas the more affluent were more likely to keep their local branches.

Moreover, because of their low incomes, and where they live, such

people are more likely to be subject to exclusion by the credit-scoring systems - which look at things such as income level, how your account

is run, bad debts.— and increasingly used by banks and building societies to determine who are "good" and "bad" customers.

Such systems are substituting for the judgement of local branch managers, who used to use their day-to-day knowledge to determine who was a good or a bad risk Glenda Coope Glenda Cooper

TRANSPORT

Child seat danger revealed

More than half (54 per cent) of child car seats are incorrectly fitted and 90 per cent of deaths and injuries could be avoided if the seats were used correctly, according to figures from the RAC. A campaign to highlight the dangers of incorrectly fitted or wrongly used car seats was launched yesterday by the supermarket when Sefermen Mother and Raby

chain Safeway, Mother and Baby magazine and child car seat manufacturer Britax. A survey in June's issue of Mother and Baby claims that 96

per cent of readers want more done to help parents fit seats correctly.
"Children these days travel nearly everywhere by car, with

the average child clocking up about 4,000 miles per year," said a spokeswoman for the campaign.
This initiative aims to

improve on the RAC's frightening statistics.7

LEISURE

Not enough spending on fun

Council spending on "fun" has increased - but not by enough, according to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and

While there was an increase of 2.29 per cent in net expenditure per head on leisure and recreation services, CIPFA says this was 'barely sufficient" to keep up with inflation.

The biggest individual area of spending was on indoor sport. which accounted for more than a third, followed by outdoor sport (22.2 per cent) and arts (17.1 per cent).

The distribution varies, with county councils placing more emphasis on funding arts activities (spending 33 per cent), compared with district councils, which spend 63 per cent of their total expenditure on funding sports, both indoor and

Wales spends the most per head - £38.19 - although this is down by £2.72, followed by London, which spends £35.22. Metropolitan areas spend £29.55 and English shire counties and districts spend £28.29 per head. Glenda Cooper

HEALTH

Doctors ill-equipped to treat ME

Almost all family doctors now recognise the reality of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, but few are said to offer sufferers any helpful

A survey for the support group Action on ME, published yesterday, showed that 96 per cent of GPs accepted that CFS existed. But only 33 per cent are able to give patients any advice on coping with its debilitating symptoms.

Action on ME said the problem was that doctors did not receive

proper training about the condition.

CFS, also known as Myalgic Encephalomyelitis or ME, causes long periods of weakness and lethargy which in extreme cases can leave victims bedridden. Sufferers also complain of headaches,

aching muscles, sleep disturbance and depression.

The survey also showed that 94 per cent of CFS sufferers are

forced to give up work.

More than 60 per cent benefit from alternative therapies, the most popular being aromatherapy massage, acupuncture, homeopaths, meditation and yoga. Action for ME estimates there are more than 150,000 sufferers

online every day on AOL Call 0800 376 5376 for FREE software - quote "indepe



NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers

in the first half of 1996

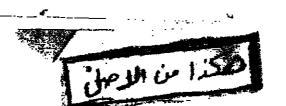
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Service of Control of the Service Service



al, according to a survey.

"for reasons of personal safety."

Dr Timothy Woodman, from

him to remove her sleeping daughter's contact lenses. He, too, declined to leave his bed.

and another in Grays Thurrock, Essex, declined to visit a patient

complaining of "excess wind".

The survey, by the medical magazine Pulse, also records the case of a woman who walked from her home in Hornchurch, Essex, to her GP's surgery - only to ask for a home visit as her phone was broken.

A British Medical Associa-





Ashburton School: 'There are some problems for which you can't blame staff or pupils

The private sector success

Dulwich College: 'Very interested in co-operation with the public sector' Photographs: Peter Macdiarmid

be slowing, particularly among

The number of

pupils in indepen-

dent schools has

shown its biggest

increase for a

decade as confidence in

As the Government prepares to abolish the assisted places scheme which helps bright chil-

dren from poor families attend

fee-paying schools, figures re-

leased yesterday reveal a 1.7 per

The Independent Schools Information Service (Isis) which

collects data for 80 per cent of

were 473,816 pupils in its

schools in January - a rise of

7,600 on the previous year and amounting to 8 per cent of the

There was an increase of

more than 11 per cent in pupils on assisted places – up to 37,183 – after the Conservative gov-ernment's decision to extend the

scheme to primary pupils.

Overall, the biggest increases were among the youngest pupils: numbers in secondary

schools fell by 0.4 per cent

while those for nursery schools

went up by 6.3 per cent and pri-

abroad increased by 9 per cent.

The number of pupils from

Boarding numbers continue

Labour's first education

assisted places scheme

and use the money saved

to reduce class sizes for

pupils aged five to seven.

The cost of the scheme is £117m a year, due to

Pupils with assisted

places will continue to 0be

Bill will abolish the

rise to £180m.

mary by 3.3 per cent.

school population.

the economy returns.

The overall increases were achieved despite a average rise in fees of 5.2 per cent, up slightly on the previous year. Average fees are now £1,533 a term

to decline but the fall seems to back to the time when the Greater London Council paid for 80 per cent of the boys.

They were looking for alternatives to the scheme. He added: "We will do everything we can to maintain the socioeconomic catchment of the

6 Independent schools are in a strong position to withstand any pressure from the Government 9

with fees, mostly from the schools themselves.

Isis argues that many schools with assisted places are heavily over-subscribed and will have little difficulty finding fee-paying pupils to fill their

Graham Able, head of Dulwich College, in south London (fees for day pupils £1,995 a term), which has 270 out of 1,400 pupils on assisted places, said the school hoped to maintain a tradition which went

The Labour pledge: Funding for assisted places abolished

funded until the end of

the current phase of

funded up to A-level,

on to senior school.

their education. Those

in senior schools will be

but those in preparatory

schools will not receive

The Government is

looking for ways to bring

funding when they move

for day pupils. Nearly a third of pupils receive some form of help ucation for every boy who comes here that we have neople from a wide variety of back-

> "We would be very interested in ways in which we could cooperate with the public sector without affecting our indepen-

> The school already hosts a Saturday school for bright state primary pupils, funded by a charity, at which members of the school's staff teach for a small

Independent school heads

position: "The

created by the public/private divide

state and independent

A key passage in the

educational apartheid

diminishes the whole

education system.

schools closer together.

Labour election manifesto

makes clear the party's

said they would protest to the Government about its plans to withdraw funding from preparatory school pupils on assisted places when they leave for senior schools at the age of 11

Michael Mayor, head of Rugby School and chairman of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, said the schools were interested in opening up their facilities to state school pupils, for example for specialist language teaching or Oxbridge tuition.

He said: "If schools are shut ty but are absolutely thriving there is something wrong be-cause it isn't related to the real

"But if you are running a school for fee-paying parents you can't make everything they pay for available to the local community. There is a balance to be struck here."

David Woodhead, director of Isis, said: "Parents are voting with their children for independent education in big num-

"Independent schools are in a strong position to withstand any pressure which may come from a Labour government."

Judith Judd I the heads of local education

The failing state school

authorities. They could then be reopened on the same site with a new head and some new staff.

support

rather than criti-

cism if they are to

reverse their spiral

of decline, according

to the head of one school on

Labour's list of institutions

George Varnava was app-ointed last December to over-

see the recovery of Ashburton

School in Croydon, south Lon-

don, which was strongly criti-

cised by inspectors in December

1995 and acquired the dreaded "failing" label six months later.

After the wave of bad pub-licity and loss of local confidence

generated by the inspection re-port, the school is attempting to

go "back up the spiral the other way", the head says. A series

of interim inspections have

charted some improvements,

but as one of the longer-stayers on the failing list Ashburton will

be all too aware of the new gov-

ernment's pledge to close schools which do not improve

fast enough.

Planned legislation to be out-

lined in tomorrow's Queen's

Speech would give the Secretary

of State for Education and Em-

ployment powers to close per-

sistently failing schools over

which require "special mea-

Two terms at the helm have underlined for Mr Varnava, a former president of the National Association of Head Teachers brought in to manage Ashburton

habit of slipping out of school during the day.

Mr Varnava, arriving to find a school originally designed as a hospital, with stone-flagged floors, cut excess noise at a stroke by carpeting the corri-

6 There are some problems in individual schools for which you can't blame the staff or pupils 9

September, that simply heaping blame on a school will not help its recovery. He also insists that - whatever ministers may believe - there is no magic formula in setting a school back on the pathway to success. "A school is a community." he says, "it is not just about structures and therefore you can't apply a common formula to every school."

Among inspectors' criticisms of Ashburton were the boisterous behaviour of pupils between lessons and youngsters'

until a new head takes over in school boundary has effectively discouraged escapees. He says: "There are some problems in individual schools for which you can't blame the staff or pupils, and architecture is one."

> Less simple to resolve, however, were the problems of high exclusion rates at the 11-16 comprehensive. The new head expelled 11 pupils permanently and 35 temporarily in his first two months in charge, but hails as evidence of growing good order the fact that both numbers halved in March and April.

Implementation of a plan to improve Ashburton's academic and discipline record has run in parallel this year with efforts to improve the school's tarnished local image. Enrolment numbers fell last September to 120 from 180, and the local press has had a field day with stories of a staff training day trip to France and an incident in which a girl pupil singed another's hair with a cigarette lighter.

Matters came to a head when two local politicians at a public meeting on education admitted they would not send their chil-dren to Ashburton, prompting Mr Varnava to hit back with a press release stressing that the school belonged to its local community. Since then, local press coverage has grown more positive, culminating in an article last week suggesting Ash-burton had "turned a corner".

The head, naturally, would agree, but insists the process is down to local solutions, not simple managerial formulae. "You can shut a school and open it again, change its name or its uniform but ultimately it is the same kids," he says. "What is important is trying to have a community school which serves

Lucy Ward

David Blunkett: Committed to changing the system

The Labour piedge: Fast track procedures to improve standards New legislation to be proposed in tomorrow's Queen's Speech will give the Secretary of State for

Education and Employment powers to replace the "hit squads", devised by the Tories to take over failing schools, with a new "fresh-start" policy under which schools

could be closed and reopened with a new head, new governors and new staff. The Government also proposes fast-track procedures for removing poor teachers.

At present, only local education authorities can close schools, though ministers have indicated

that they intend to push LEAs to move faster to bring on failing schools not considered to be

improving quickly enough.

Bedside manner fails to impress doctors on call

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

They do not feature in any medical text book, but every GP. is familiar with them: the bizarre calls made in the small hours of the morning by patients who view their family doctor like

the local pizza delivery man.

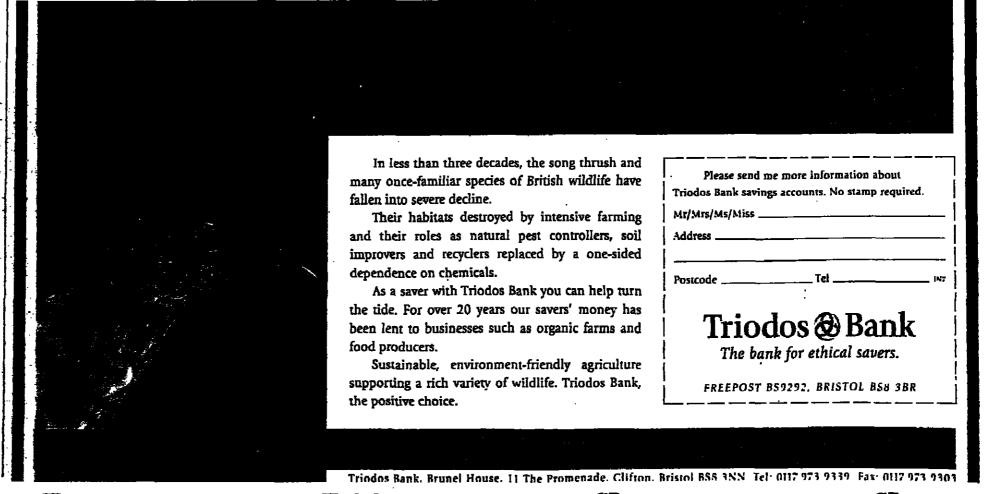
Despite efforts by medical organisations to deter trivial calls, patients persist in phoning their GP for advice ranging from the mundane to the highly person-

One S2-year-old woman called up Dr Thomas Abraham of Hull at dawn one morning complaining she had been awake since 4.30am seized with "an irresistible desire for sex". Wisely refusing to leave the security of his own bed, Dr Abraham offered her advice over the

Gillingham, Kent, was called by a woman at 3am who wanted

A Birmingham GP told of being called on a Sunday evening for help with a crossword on the grounds that the answer was "a medical word",

tion spokeswoman said out-ofhours calls to GPs had risen nam one red declined to visit fivefold over the past 20 years.



Bizarre case of the CIA man, the hostage and a desert suicide

Michael Streeter

A British businessman worked as an agent for the Central Intelligence Agency and had been involved in negotiations to free the church envoy Terry Waite from kidnappers in the Middle East, a coroner's inquest was told vesterday.

Ian Spiro, 46 - who was found dead in his car in the Californian desert in November 1992 days after his wife and three children were killed in their San Diego home - was said to have been a "low-level conduit" for the CIA. He was said to have been recruited by the disgraced United States Marine Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North because of his extensive business contacts in the

But the hearing at Whitehaven magistrates' court was also told that San Diego police concluded Mr Spiro had committed suicide after killing his family because of £3.5m business debts.

The West Cumbria coroner recorded a verdict of unlawful killing on Mr Spiro's wife, Gail, 42, and their children Sara, 16, Adam, 14, and Dina, 10, who were shot while in their beds at the family's home at Rancho Santa Fe in November 1992.

Mr Spiro, who was found dead from cyanide poisoning in his car in the Californian desert days later, on 8 November, was not subject to the proceedings in Whitehaven because he had been cremated and buried in the United States.

In a statement read out by the coroner, John Taylor, Mrs Spiro's mother, Margery Brunskill said that her son-in-law had been employed by the CIA and British intelligence, "We believe that Ian was murdered by some terrorist group originating from the Middle East or under the direction of the CIA," she said.



CIA 'conduit' Ian Spiro (above),



Mr Taylor added that the family was unhappy with the US police's version of events and would be continuing their fight

to get the full facts disclosed. . Abook by a US expert on ter-rorism has claimed that Mr Spiro - who had often been called James Bond because of his accent and "activities" - had been "liquidated" by an Iranian hit squad for being prepared to reveal the identities of those behind the hostage-taking in Lebanon.

In a statement read out at the inquest, Eugene Douglas, former US ambassador to Britain. said that he knew Ian Spiro to

be a CIA agent who used the name John Smith.

Interviewed by Federal Burean of Investigation officials, Mr Douglas had said in the statement: "Spiro had a part in the release of Terry Waite and had passports in several names and from several countries.

"He had 15 to 20 years working in Beirut and had strong links with the Shias, that is how he was brought to the attention of the CIA and to Oliver North."

Mr Douglas referred to the dead man as "not a covert employee" of the CIA but a "lowlevel conduit." Before his death Mr Spiro had contacted Mr Douglas wanting help from Robert Gates, head of the CIA - but the message was never passed on.

A 1995 San Diego police department report found that Mr and Mrs Spiro owed \$5m to various banks, credit cards and individuals. They examined evidence that Mr Spiro had tried to use a Ouija board to help him win the California lottery and a book called Final Exit, on the best methods of suicide, which was found in his car. The report concluded: "It is evident that Ian Spiro killed his family and then committed suicide. Case closed. Suspect deceased."

After Ian Spiro was found dead, backpackers discovered belongings of his in the desert. including tapes recorded on a dictaphone. A US clinical psy-chologist concluded that he had become an "isolated and rigid" individual whose "melancholy attitude "had taken him beyond depression"

Mr Taylor said: "The family do not accept the circumstances of the report by the San Diego Police and I understand they are involved in further investigations in America.

81-асте grounds. "This was a tragic case." he



an educational charity which

works under the guidance of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, has

had its headquarters at the

The Natural Law Party,

19th century house since 1978.

whose yogic flying candidates have highlighted the teachings of the Maharishi in the last two

general elections, also rent

Dr Geoffrey Clements, of the

foundation's trustees, said

Mentmore had been a "superb

with our activities means we are

and built for Baron Myer Am-

looking for a new home."

Stately home for sale: could suit yogic flyer or maharishi

Louise Jury

Transcendental meditation is proving so popular in Britain that the organisation which teaches it, the Maharishi Foundation, is selling its Grade I listed home and searching for a new one.

Savills, the property agents, expect a price of between £10m and £15m for Mentmore Towers in Buckinghamshire and its

The Maharishi Foundation, home" and they would be sad to leave. But he added: "The success we are experiencing



Detail from the marble chimney in the central hall. Right: The Maharishi Mahesh Yogi

Earl of Rosebery, who was prime minister in 1894-95. But when the 6th Lord Rosebery died in 1974, the 7th Earl, Neil Archibald Primrose, faced con-

He offered the house and its treasure trove of art and antiques to the Government in lieu of duties for a reported sum of

But the Government refused, provoking a storm of protest. Sotheby's arranged an auction contents in May 1977 Sir Joseph Paxton, the man which became known as "the

who designed Crystal Palace, sale of the century". What was arguably the finest private collection of continen-It passed to Hannah Roth- tal art and antiquities in the schild who married the 5th country was sold for £6m in nine

days. Part of the estate was also sold to become the Menumore golf and country club.

The house includes a grand hall, five state and major reception rooms, seven hedroom suites and around 50 more bedrooms. Many rooms have omate gilt work and wooden panelling the most splendid of which is the dining room, lined with 18th century gilded boiseries. originally designed for the French royal house, and panels the Duke of Buckingham at Stowe. The style is Italian palazzo in the public areas and French Versailles in the recep-

There is a series of fine mar-

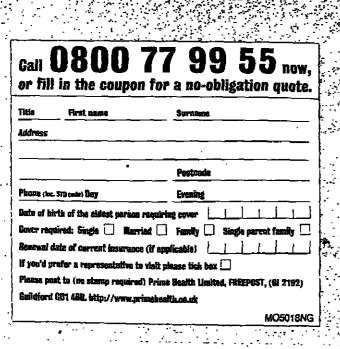
ble fireplaces originally imported from the Continent, including an enormous marble chimney piece in the central hall. This was reputed to have been designed by Rubens for his

home in Antwerp. Ian Stewart, for Savills, said: This is a magnificent stately house, probably the most important to be offered in 1997. It is rare for a property of this calibre to be offered on the market."

Part of the Maharishi Founstudents for its newly-formed

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Glasgow tries to scotch Edinburgh's Cannes bid

A traditional and very British rivalry is about to invade the Cannes Film Festival.

On the seafront, there will today be a high-profile launch of the Glasgow Film Office. At a champagne breakfast, the Lord Provost of Glasgow in his kilt, accompanied by Tom Clarke, the new minister responsible for films and tourism, will tell the world's film makers to come to Glasgow to shoot their movies. It has a wonderful mix of grit-

ty housing developments and beautiful scenery. What is more, it was the place where Trainspor-

But a few desks away in the British Pavilion, the Edinburgh Film Office will be putting up their posters and selling their city to Hollywood's finest as the place to shoot their movies.

Cannes Film Festival.

you to everybody."

dent Jacques Chirac.

Festival salutes

'shy' Bergman

Ingmar Bergman lived up to his reclusive image when he failed to appear to receive his prestigious "Palm of Palms" award at the 50th

The 79-year-old Oscar-winning Swede, who has made more than 30 films in his career,

unique prize at Sunday's awards ceremony at

the Palais des Festivals in front of 800 guests. It was accepted on his behalf by his daughter

Linn Ullmann and her mother Liv who read

of playing with the images of life and death

life itself has finally caught up with me and

made me shy and silent. I want to say thank

Bergman, who made The Seventh Seal, Wild

Strawberries and Persona, was selected for the

prize by two dozen surviving Palme d'Or win-

ners including Britain's Mike Leigh and Roland Joffe, and Americans Martin Scorsese and Francis Ford Coppola. Earlier, the Golden Palm winners had lunched with French presi-

out a statement, saying: "After years and years

said he was too shy and old to collect the

David Lister reports on a clash of the clans erupting at the film festival

It has gritty housing estates and beautiful scenery, they will boast, what is more, it was the place where Trainspotting was

"My office has been going for seven years now, and Glasgow are aping it." said a disgruntled George Carlaw, of the Edinburgh and Lothian Scene Industries Office Limited. "We have a massive range of

locations. And we can recreate the Highlands with the scenery in Mid-Lothian. And I am prepared to close Princes Street or the Royal Mile for film makers. Indeed I did get the Royal Mile closed for the making of Jude.

"Trainspouring's exteriors were all shot in Edinburgh. It was only the interiors that were

already the film city. We have

shot in Glasgow. We are a Georgian city, the civilised education centre, the money centre. Glasgow is an industrial "Of course we want the film makers to come to us rather

than to Glasgow. And if they want gritty housing develop-ments, we've got all that too." Hilda McLean, spokeswoman for the Glasgow Film Office, responded: "We are

And 95 per cent of the production of Trainspotting took place in Glasgow. "As for the scenery, its a

20-minute drive to Loch Lomond, you have got parks right in the middle of Glasgow and wonderful Victorian architecture."

And so, film makers and members of the public will today watch a piece of British pageant when Glasgow's Lord. Provost, Pat Lally, is played across the Croisette by a piper in full Highland dress to declare: "Come to us and make your next movie in Glasgow.

If those same film makers follow him into the British Pavilion they could witness another piece of British pageant - a very unluvyy row between the clans.



Paul McCann

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Victory for the jurors who couldn't decide

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

Two women jurors who were controversially jailed for refusing to reach a verdict in a counterfeiting trial were cleared by

the Court of Appeal yesterday. The court said Judge Anura Cooray, who jailed Bonnie Schot and Carol Barclay for 30 days, should never have presided at the contempt case against them, particularly in view of the "element of bias" and the anger he had shown at an earlier hearing.

Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Mr Justice Forbes and Mr Justice Keene, said the judge should have passed the case to another senior Crown Court judge or to the Attorney General Jailing the two women was "not appropri-ale." Lord Justice Rose said, adding that there was no previous recorded instance of a juror being imprisoned for contempt.

three appeal judges that the secrets of the juryroom were immune from judicial scrutiny and that the judge had displayed apparent bias against his client after ordering the case they had been hearing, a



Not guilty: Carol Barclay, left, and Bonnie Schot

Although Ms Schot, the jury foreman, and Ms Barclay, 32, were released on bail the following day, Judge Cooray, 61, strongly defended his action, insisting that jurors had to recognise their responsibilities if the justice system was to be upheld.

The controversy began when Judge Cooray was passed a note from the jury saying that it was unable to reach any de-John Perry QC, counsel for Ms Schot. 20, had told the three appeal judges that the second sec manded a more detailed explanation, and the names of the jurors concerned.

Ms Schot, who had been planning to study law, gave a different version of events later, when she insisted she had not



dants were guilty or not guilty. It was Ms Barclay's case throughout that she was unable ethically to judge anyone, but had lacked the courage to say so when she was sworn in.

Stephen Solley QC, for Ms Barclay, said the jailing of the women sent "the wrong message and shock-waves to potential jurors up and down the land." Overbearing jurors might use the threat of exposure of a weak juror as a weapon to secure agreement, he warned. David Pannick QC, appear-

ing as amicus curiae, or "friend of the court", said it was a clear contempt for a juror to refuse to perform the task of giving a verdict, which meant that Ms Barclay was guilty of contempt. £100,000 17-day counterfeiting found it possible to reach a conprosecution. to be abandoned. found it possible to reach a conclusion on whether the defender, on natural justice grounds. She was cleared yesterday, how-



Leader of the pack: Barry Humphries, who took to the stage last night as Fagin in Oliver! Photograph: Nicola Kurtz debut in Oliver! last night.

Dame Edna to pick a pocket or two

Dame Edna Everage's alter ego Barry Humphries yesterday returned to a role he last played 30 years ago - Fagin in the West End musical production of Oliver!

His arrival marks the fifth time in just three years that London Palladium bosses have been forced to repaint their biliboards.

The man behind the outrageous antics of Dame Edna and the Australian cultural attache, Les Patterson, has taken over the starring role from Robert Lindsay.

Lindsay himself followed Russ Abbott, Jim Dale and Jonathan Price as the leader of the Victorian gang of young pickpockets.

In the original production of Oliver! in 1960 Humphries, now 64, played the part of Mr Sowerberry, the undertaker.

He played Fagin when the show transferred to Broadway and his last appearance was in 1967, playing Fagin in a production at London's Piccadilly Theatre. Standing on the steps of the London Palladium in Argyll Street, just off Oxford Circus, yesterday he said: "Look at me. I look like I should be selling a special edition of the Big Issue." Gone was the familiar glitz

of Dame Edna. Instead flowing locks of hair lay over his shoulders and he smiled a toothless grin as he posed with members of the child gang who also made their stage

ITV lobbies for regions

Paul McCann Media Correspondent

ITV kicked off a lobbying campaign yesterday aimed at persuading the new Labour government of its commitment to regional programme making.

The channel sent to MPs, MEPs and peers the results of a survey that found threequarters of viewers believed ITV served their local interests better than the BBC.

per cent of viewers preferred ITV's local news compared with just 39 per cent for the BBC. It also showed 59 per cent of viewers chose ITV's local arts and entertainment programmes compared with 22 per cent for the BBC. Leslie Hill, ITV's chairman, admitted that the re-

up to the Labour Party.

port had been timed to follow

the general election, but denied

the channel was trying to cosy

"New Heritage Secretary Chris Smith has said he is keen to ensure regional programme making is protected. It is important that we make ourselves known. We spend £200m a year on regional programmes and regional news which is a mind-boggling figure."

ITV has begun lobbying with

an eye to next year's licence renegotiations. The 15 ITV licensees will begin talks next year This is quite a good time to to reduce the £400m they cpay the survey showed that 58 be doing this," Mr Hill said. annually to the Treasury.

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EU rewards 'positive attitude' of new ministers

Brown secures green light on VAT reduction

Sarah Helm Brussels

The Government's drive to sweeten relations with the European Union intensified yesterday as Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, promised a "constructive and positive" attitude towards the EU's economic

Jack Cunningham, the Agri-culture minister, spoke of a "new approach" to the beef ban and an end to the "aggressions and intransigence" of the past. He also promised a constructive approach to the fish quotahopping controversy.

The two ministers, both on their first visits to Brussels since the election, won swift praise from European partners for their overtures, which secured some positive results.

Mr Brown yesterday secured a deal under which the European Commission signalled it would not attempt to block the Government from reducing VAT on domestic fuel. Brussels officials had earlier warned that the VAT reduction ran counter to the spirit of an EU directive

Nicholas Schoon

yesterday.

Environment Correspondent

The Government made a sharp

change of tack on the issue of

quota-hopping foreign vessels

During the election campaign

Labour insisted that once in

power it was prepared to block

crucial Inter-governmental Con-

ference (IGC) talks on the future

of the European Union unless

But yesterday Jack Cun-

ningham, the Minister of Agri-

culture, Fisheries and Food,

said Britain wanted to avoid

making quota-hopping a stick-

Britain's demands were met.

would work "as fast it it could". thin the constraints of scientific advice, to secure a gradual easing of the beef ban.

Despite the new harmony, however, the British ministers were made aware that smoothtalking will soon have to give ay to tough decision-making.

After yesterday's finance ministers' council, Mr Brown was forced to side-step questions on when the Government would decide on whether to join the single currency.
Under the Maastricht treaty,

Britain must notify its partners of whether it wants to join at the start, on 1 January 1999, by the end of this year.

Yesterday the Chancellor refused to be drawn on how such a notification might be formulated, and maintained his election-campaign position, that the Government is keeping its options open on whether to seek backing for membership in a

Furthermore, despite market rumours to the contrary, Mr Brown maintained he had "no plans" to take Britain back into

Labour caution on quotas

cluding talks in Amsterdam

Less than a month ago the

Tories promised that they would

block final agreement at the

talks if the other 14 member-

states did not agree on adding

a protocol outlawing quota-hopping to the Treaty of Rome,

At the time Tony Blair told BBC Radio 4: "We certainly

have not ruled out holding up

IGC business in order to get the

right changes to fishing policies

that are in Britain's interest."

will settle the future direction

and development of the EU.

The conclusions of the IGC

the EU's founding treaty.

next month.

Mr Cunningham, meanwhile, the exchange rate mechanism, was told that the commission a move other member states a move other member states would see as an indication of

readiness to sign up to the euro. Nevertheless, it was evident vesterday that pressure on Britain to take a view on the euro is already increasing as the deadline for the launch ap-

The finance ministers cleared the way for Portugal and Spain to join in the first wave, by agreeing the countries' economic convergence programmes.

Yves Thibault de Silguy, the Economic Commissioner, welcomed Mr Brown's decision to move towards the creation of an independent Bank of England as a "step in the right direction" towards meeting a key Maastricht criterion.

For Mr Cunningham, yesterday's discussion brought to the fore the enormous hurdles which have yet to be surmounted if Britain is to secure a lifting of the beef ban.

Mr Cunningham said he would present a "new agenda" on how to make progress but conceded that it would be foolhardy to suggest any new dead-lines for easing the ban.

uingham told BBC Radio 4's To-

day programme: "We have to

steer clear of making that a

major issue at the Inter-gov-

ernmental Conference. I think

these problems of BSE and

quota-hopping have a different timescale and they will be

solved by strong representations from British ministers ... on a

continuous basis. I don't expect

them to form a significant part

of the discussions at the IGC."

Later a Foreign Office spokeswoman said that the

Government was not insisting

on a new protocol to outlaw

quota-hopping, but it was

determined to make progress on



A new York subway train covered in graffiti. Young offenders in Britain would be required to clean the trains as punishment for their crime Photograph: Rex

lason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

Penal affairs groups expressed concerns yesterday at government plans to order children as young as 10 to carry out work in the community as a punishment for crimes.

Under the proposals to be announced by Labour in the Queen's Speech tomorrow, young offenders can be told to apologise to their victims and make reparation by either doing work directly connected to their crime, or for the wider community.

The scheme, which was suggested by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, last year will form part of Labour's new Crime and Disorder Bill. The aim of the new "reparation orders" is to make young people understand the impact of their offences on victims. At present offenders aged between 10 and 16 cannot be ordered to do community work. They are usually fined, which Labour believes rarely acts as a deterrent.

Punishment to fit the crime for young offenders

But Paul Cavadino, chairman of the benefit the community, attract the Penal Affairs Consortium, an alliance of co-operation of the child and reduce the 33 organisations, said any work should be confined to dealing directly with the youngsters should be involved in creative victim. He said: "A mini-community service order is unlikely to work with child pride in producing something. offenders. To carry out a sustained piece of community work requires a degree of maturity.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Pro-bation Officers, added: "Schemes must put in during its three-month duration, to roam the streets late at night."

a written or verbal apology to their vicchances of reoffending. Ideally, these activities from which they can take

The reparation orders are aimed at children involved with less serious offences, such as vandalism and shoplifting. Details of an order, such as how would be drawn up by Youth Offender Teams, made up of representatives from local authority social services and education departments as well as probation officers, which would also oversee their implementation. Depending on individual circumprison, minister

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stances, youngsters could be ordered to work directly for their victims, or to pay their debt by working for the wider com-munity, either individually or in groups. The Youth Offender Teams will also be able to insist on offenders providing

Typically, vandals who scrawl graffiti on a neighbour's wall could be ordered to clean it up, while those who vandalise parks could be put to work picking up

litter or replanting trees.

The orders will make up part of a package of measures in the Bill designed to tackle youth crime, they include a proposal for court-ordered curfews for children as young as 10 who are allowed

> wage takes effect smoothly and successfully in all parts of the

> economy." He said a minimum

wage would reduce staff turn-

over and absenteeism, improve

Queen's Speech, Robin Cook,

Foreign Secretary, is expected

to confirm that unions will once

more be recognised at the

productivity and create jobs. As part of the debate on the

ing point at the IGC's con-Yesterday, however, Mr Cun-Barclayloan Your next limo. A Barclayloan can stretch it over 7 years.

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BARCLAYS

to oppose class-size plans

Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

Government plans to cut class sizes to below 30 for all five- to seven-year-olds are unwork-able, the Liberal Democrats' education spokesman will claim tbis week.

Don Foster and his party will oppose the proposals, to be unveiled in tomorrow's Queen's Speech, on the grounds that there will not be enough funds available to pay for them.

The Liberal Democrats' manifesto promised that all primary school pupils would be taught in classes of less than 30. It said the plan, to be phased in over five years, would cost £475m per year once it was implemented. Labour says its more modest

plan will cost £100m, and will be financed through the abolition of the assisted places scheme, under which 37,000 pupils receive between £2,500 and £3,000 per year to help pay their private school fees.

However, opponents say there are two flaws with the Labour plan. The first is that the assisted places scheme will be phased out over seven years to allow pupils complete their education. The second is that the abolition of the scheme will mean more pupils move into state schools, costing around £2,000 each per year.

On the plus side, the Tories had planned to expand assisted places, putting the cost up from £117m to £180m. That means a saving of £63m which the new government can use to help fulfill its class-size pledge. Mr Foster, the Liberal De-

mocrats' education spokesman will say that the Government's plans do not go far enough. His party will seek to amend the proposed legislation during its passage through the House of Commons, although with a huge Labour majority the protest is unlikely to have much

"Labour's plans to cut class sizes are a pale shadow of the Liberal Democrats', which would cut class sizes to 30 for all children under 11 years," he said last night.

Brown gets last say on minimum wage

Barrie Clement Labour Editor

The national minimum wage may not be introduced until 1999 in order to give employ-ers time to adjust their pay rates. according to Whitehall sources. It is also expected that there will be two minima – one for adults and a "training rate" for 16 and 17-year-olds to encour-

school-leavers. The 15-strong Low Pay Commission, which will be announced tomorrow in the Queen's Speech, will advise on the rate, but the final decision will lie with Gordon Brown,

age companies to take on

Chancellor of the Exchequer. If the Chancellor believes the rate is too high he could ignore it, delay its introduction or phase in the new minimum as the previous administration did with the recommendations of the pay review bodies.
While unions have called for

a rate struck at half male me-

dian earnings - currently cal-culated at £4.42 - the commission is unlikely to stick to any particular formula. In fact, the minimum is more likely to be in the region of £3 to £3.50 at current prices and be introduced next May at the very earliest. Ian McCartney, trade and in-dustry minister, said yesterday that the commission would have a wide range of functions, but

it is known that the Government has set its face against any suggestion that it could form the basis for a resurrected National Economic Development Council, a tripartite body which advised successive governments in the 1970s on the economy. Addressing the conference of the General Federation of

Trade Unions in Bournemouth, Mr McCartney said the commission would be set up "very quickly" as part of the Gov-ernment's plans to narrow the poverty gap. Mr McCartney told the fed-

eration, an organisation for small unions, that the aim of the commission would be to restore a "fair balance" to the world of work.

The commission, made up of employers' and workers' rep-



lan McCartney: Aiming to restore 'fair balance' at work

resentatives, would recommend the initial level of the minimum wage, but would also review its impact and monitor implementation and enforcement. He said: "The commission

will have a key role to play in ensuring that the minimum

GCHQ spy network headquar-ters at Cheltenham. Senior management at the centre is urging Mr Cook to impose a "no-strike" deal on unions as part of the arrangement. The Government Communications Staff Federation, an association formed in the absence of orthodox unions, is expected to merge with the PTC civil service union. Legislation to ensure that

small business is compensated for the late settlement of bills, with interest charges being levied on late-payers, is also to be included in the Queen's Speech. However, details of the plan will not be known until the Department of Trade and Industry has completed consultations on the penal action.

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Howard's dark side brought to light

Kim Sengupta and Fran Abrams

Ann Widdecombe to tell Commons that ex-home secretary misled MPs over prison chief sacking

Ann Widdecombe, the former prisons minister, is due to meet

Ms Widdecombe is due to see the Speaker of the House of Commons this week to find ways of placing highly damaging allegations against her former hoss, Michael Howard, in front

of the House of Commons.

The decision by Ms Widde-combe to go public with grave complaints against Mr Howard could fatally weaken his position in the contest for the Conserv-

Betty Boothroyd on Thursday. She has stated that she has evidence that Mr Howard, then home secretary, misled Parliament and acted improperly

over the sacking of head of Prison Service, Derek Lewis. She is determined that " the truth shall be out" before the Conservatives elect their new ed until after the general election.

Ms Widdecombe has also stressed that if the Tories had wen she would have refused to serve under Mr Howard and "resigned immediately" before making her knowledge available

to the party hierarchy. She has denied that she was

that she had decided to speak out she had deposited papers with months before", but had wait-her lawyer. But she told friends other leadership contenders.

Howard's camp, or any of the claims that he was difficult to other leadership contenders. she has a "detailed knowledge of what happened" and she would not "like to die without

the story being told." Miss Widdecombe, who has had two conversations about the affair with Derek Lewis, has said publicly that she would be making "no comment" about the so worried about events at the matter. She has not been con-

She told friends that "Once a leader is elected, the Tory Party must swing behind him. But the fact is Michael Howard is not fit to lead the party or the country". She has also described him as "dangerous stuff", and that there is "something of the

night" in his personality. Last night, Mr Howard's

His campaign was being run by David Maclean, a former Home Office minister who had worked with him for years, and Tim Collins, his former special adviser. "The two people in this party who have worked longest with him are supporting him."

one backer said. Mr Howard would promote time of Mr Lewis's sacking that tacted by anyone from Mr friends said Miss Widdecombe's himself as the toughest candi-

leader who had been nicknamed "Stalin" and "Kim II Sung" should be opposed by

someone equally tough who had the strength to reform his own party.
Mr Howard's friends say he would move to centralise and modernise the Conservative

Party in similar ways to those

used by Tony Blair in the

Last night another contender, Kenneth Clarke. warned that the party would render itself unelectable if it swung to the right under a Euro-sceptic leader.
Mr Clarke compared the

Tories' current position with that of Labour in the 1980s, when it rejected Denis Healey in favour of Michael Foot because Healey had upset the unilateralist disarmers. That decision had cleared the way for a gencration of Conservative rule, he

Leaderless **Scots Tories** look to Europe as way out of the mire

Douglas Fraser

At a garden party in Lanarkshire this weekend. Scottish Conservatives will be searching for a way out of the mire that engulfs them. Inonically, those attending will be looking with a Euro-friendly demeanour towards a role model in Germany's Christian Social Union.

The option of becoming a independent Unionist party similar to the right-wing, regional CSU which dominates Bavaria while supporting Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democrats at federal level - will be considered by the Tory rump left after the election cull.

Arthur Bell, chairman of the Scottish Tory Reform Group, has commissioned a study of the CDU/CSU link, and hopes to have results when up to 80 invited members of the party gather in a marquee at his home near Biggar.

The meeting will be no social gathering: a newspaper survey

A STATE OF THE STA

chairs who responded (there are 72 seats in Scotland), only 15 said the party should continue to oppose home rule; eight backed support for devolution and 15 said there should be no party line in this autumn's

Sixteen out of 38 thought the party should break with the past by changing its name, nine of them preferring the Scottish

The fact is that Tories north of the border are thinking of

found that of 38 constituency referendum on Labour's Scottish Parliament plan.

Union Party.

splitting from England while remaining Unionist, looking at adopting a federal relationship with London. That they are considering these measures, and a U-turn on their opposition to home rule, shows some desperation - or imaginative thinking - from a leaderless party trying to find whether and how

it can salvage a future for itself. The party has no MPs - down from ten before the election -



no Euro-MPs, no local councils under its control and fewer than 70 elected councillors.

John Major has declined to appoint a shadow Scottish Secretary, leaving leadership rivals Michael Howard and William Hague to co-operate on constitutional matters.

The one thing on which members seem united is that things can only get better, but are unclear.

with a power vacuum at the top, they are at odds as to how that could happen.

The three former Scottish secretaries, who lost their seats on 1 May, are all on holiday until later this week. Michael Forsyth has said he is out of polities for the foreseeable future, Malcolm Rifkind intends to return and Ian Lang's intentions

Annabel Goldie, the current Scottish Tory party chair has inherited a very difficult job. She took over at the start of the election campaign when her pre-decessor, Sir Michael Hirst,

suddenly resigned, believing wrongly - that a gay relationship was about to be exposed. Last week he told the media he had been stitched up and although no naming names, the

finger was pointed at Mr Bell for raising the rumours with senior party figures.

In the absence of other leadership, the loudest voices raised in the party have been critical of the anti-devolution line it took while in government.

"I have said for some time that if the party developed an ostrich-like position, it would not see what was going on and

ernise the Conservative power it would leave its anatomy exposed in rather tender parts." says Arthur Bell. "That is exactly what happened."

Pressure is building for major reforms to party organisation and policy making, ensuring a stronger role for grassroots members. The party has no say in the election of John Major's successor. This point will be at the forefront of moves to mod-

structure throughout the UK. The Tories are not the only ones trying to find their way in a new political landscape. Without a shadow Secretary of State for Scotland, both the Scottish Liberal Democrats, with ten MPs, and the Scottish Nationalists, second to Labour in share of the vote, are claiming to be the official opposition.

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Cruising into the future with the ship that dreams are made of

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

It is not a hird, nor a plane, but one man's vision of the future for luxury cruises.

If it ever leaves the drawing board, the Saltire project would see a floating city carrying more than 7,500 people from California to the Caribbean within the next 15 years.

The model ship may look as if it came from a Thunderbirds set, but its originator, John McNeece, is a respected ship designer who helped to plan Britain's largest luxury cruise ship - P&O's 67,000-ton Oriana.

Neece said, will be necessities. "As we become more accustomed to a hi-tech environment we will demand these things."

Launched at a Miami conlerence in March, the project has its British airing today. So far, the project has had a warm reception from ship builders. Sadly, there have been no

However, his previous work pales into insignificance when inpared to this grand vision. Mr McNeece's ship would boast ice tinks, convention centres and belicopter pads next to the more traditional cruise distractions of shops and cinemas. But such additions, Mr Mc-

> earth-shattering changes in the look of cruise ships in the past 50 years," said Mr McNeece. "Certainly not compared with the aerospace industry."

The most radical departure

from current thinking in Mr McNeece's plans is how the new design overcomes the "Panamax" problem. This is the width limit imposed on ships if they are to negotiate the Panama canal,

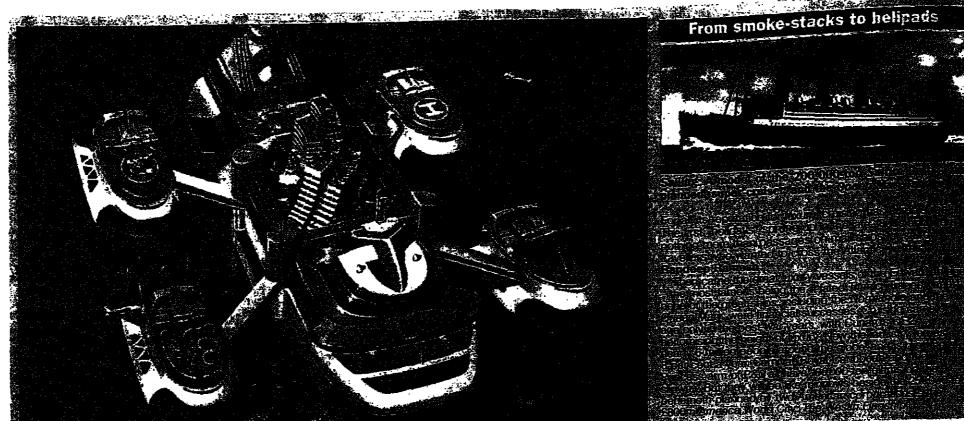
coasts of the Americas, the cruise industry's most lucrative market.

meant ships being developed

around the traditional single-hull "long-and-thin" design. But Mr McNeece's creation will be able to detach its four floating pads, and retract its stabilising arms, ensuring that the 200,000 ton

That this is more fiction than fact does not deter Mr Mc-Neece. "The cruise industry needs more 'blue sky' thinking,

One thing is certain - the cruise industry 50 years from now will belong to those who invested, pushing forward the frontiers to make their dreams



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Airport tunnellers dig in their heels.

Steve Boggan

Tunnellers underneath the proposed site of Manchester Airport's second runway put themselves on "amber alert" yesterday in readiness for eviction raids this week.

Dozens of protesters will be underground in at least 12 highly sophisticated tunnels when bailiffs move in to make way for the £172m runway.

News of a meeting yesterday between Randall Hibbert, the Under Sheriff of Cheshire, with police and bailiffs, sparked frenzied activity at the protesters' camps near Styal in Cheshire.

"We've moved up to amber alert," said Inverness John, one be very dangerous," he said. "It of the protesters. "We'll go up to red alert when we see them coming over the hill, and that could be any time now."

Tunnellers say that "a fair proportion" of the holes underneath the site are at least as sophisticated as the one in which their hero Swampy - aka Daniel Hooper - held out for a week in January this year under the site of the A30 at Fairmile, Devon.

Swampy has dug a more complex tunnel at Styal, but it s not clear whether he will be in it. He is at present on a bail condition which prevents him from going near the site but one protester yesterday said that no one would be surprised if he turned up. "Loads of us have got the same condition," he said.

Included in the demonstrators' armoury this time is the Cake Hole, a 50ft-deep tunnel dug over a three-month period and featuring numerous warrens, vertical climbs and 90-degree turns. It can hold at least 10 people, each of whom can be locked into large concrete blocks, and it is also understood that the tunnel features heavy doors with locks and bolts.

"They're in for a few surprises this time. said Atarra, a 16year-old who is on the site with her mother's permission. "By

the time this is all over, a lot of people will have a lot to be proud of. It will be much more difficult to remove people than it was at Fairmile.

According to Inverness John, some of the tunnellers have enough provisions to stay underground for at least six weeks. "Whether they would like to stay down there that long is an-other matter," he added.

He said safety was the paramount consideration and he expressed concern that protesters had failed to get an assurance from Mr Hibbert that communications to the tunnellers

would not be cut during a siege. "We would consider that to



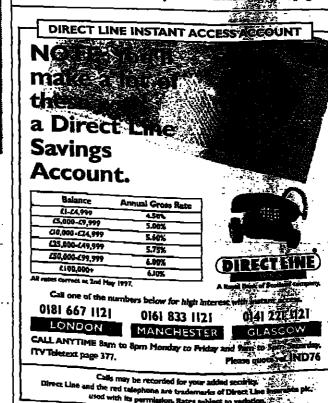
Swampy: May protest despite court's bail condition

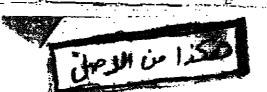
is important that we know the condition of the people under-

ground." Bailiffs will also have trouble removing demonstrators from above ground. Dozens of treehouses have been built and scores of climbers are expected to chain themselves to branches.

One protester, Gary, who suffers from a spinal disorder, plans to chain himself and his wheelchair to a tree. At least 100 people were reportedly at the site yesterday and the number was rising rapidly.

Mr Hibbert was not available





Have tens of thousands died in North Korea's secret famine?

Teresa Poole reports on a people hidden from the world who may be quietly starving

Peking — At the end of the Fifties, it was possible for a foreigner to visit China and remain completely unaware that tens of millions of people were starying to death as a result of the government's Great Leap For-ward policies. Is it conceivable, in 1997, that a country could similarly hide the severity of a famine? Could thousands, or tens of thousands, already have died in North Korea without any of the international aid workers and visiting politicians being allowed a glimpse?

This is our worry as well," Tun Myat, the World Food Programme's director of transport and logistics, said yesterday. "In a society where openness is not exactly the general rule, such a thing could be happening out of sight of a lot of people. "What we are seeing so far might only be the tip of the iceberg, there might be a lot more to it than that"

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to it than that.

Unlike China four decades ago, Pyongyang in 1997 admits to a severe food crisis, has asked for help, and has allowed food-aid workers into the country. Yet, in recent weeks, there has been a growing discrepancy between what these aid workers report and what ethnic Korean Chinese and Chinese truck drivers describe as having seen during visits across the China-North Korean border.

The aid workers speak of severe malnutrition but say they have no evidence of widespread deaths; the Chinese travellers increasingly tell of seeing starved dead bodies lying in public and executions for those

who have tried to escape. After a two-week visit to North Korea, including the WFP's first trip into the northeast provinces, Tun Myat yesterday described what he had seen as "a famine in slow motion". He added: "The population in general do not give the impression that they are about to die of starvation tomorrow ... But they are definitely starving."

He was also well aware, however, that aid workers can only travel to agreed areas, and only in the company of North Korean officials.

The WFP's first visit to North Hangyong province yielded more useful pieces for the information jigsaw. On 3 May, this province of 2.2 million people had only 600 tonnes of grain in store, a situation which is probably even worse in inland

It has got to the point where Prongvang is telling its regions



Looking for clues: Two men in Yansi City, China, using binoculars to look over the border into North Korea

"to fend for themselves", said Tun Myat. "So what do we see? We see things that you would not normally expect in North

Most surprising, given the North Korean government's iron hand over its population, were the numbers of people travelling illegally within the country, in

6 Chinese truck drivers tell of seeing starved dead bodies lying in public 🤊

we took in both directions were completely covered with people, with quite heavy loads of things that they carried from one place to the other.

We've been told that these were people who travelled without permits ... At railway stations we saw them clambering down from trains and not going through the normal exits but escaping through the rails and to the towns and villages in order to avoid being checked."

In South Hangyong, seaweed, once an occasional food, has become a staple. "In South Hangyong ... we saw people eating noodles made out of seaweed," Tun Myat said.

He explained in detail how barks and leaves were ground up with corn cobs, bean pods and mushroom stems to make into "cakes".

"These are very ingenious people. It is because of that they have sustained themselves so far. Otherwise they would be dead already."

Unlike some foreign-aid workers, Tun Myat admitted that there was no way of knowing as yet whether large num-bers of people had died or not. International aid groups have not been given access to huge swathes of inland North Korea. including the regions reached by the ethnic-Korean Chinese who cross the border to visit relatives.

"There is no doubt whattities is needed ... You've seen all those intelligence reports where the [United States] has said that perhaps as many as 100,000 have died, and I understand that the South Koreans have stated that anything up to 2,000 might be dying a day, which are all plausible things, out of sight from even those of us who are given access," Tun

"That's the difficult and maybe exasperating part of this process, that you are given access but perhaps not full and complete access.

'Dead city' strike call as Zaire awaits more talks

Preparations for a second meeting between Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko and the rebel leader, Laurent Kabila, continued yesterday, while calls increased for a "dead city" strike to protest against the rule of the ailing President. Civilians should remain at home, an unsigned pamphlet said, and fly white flags. Soldiers should remain in their camps, also flying white flags - or face bloodshed. "Ville morte" strikes have proved successful in the past. underscoring the lack of popular support for the 66-year old dictator. Tomorrow's strike, if it occurs, would show how far support extends to Mr Kabila.

Khmer Rouge blamed for death

Cambodia's King Norodom Sihanouk believes Khmer Rouge guerrillas probably killed a British mine clearance expert

abducted more than one year ago. In November, the British-based Mines Advisory Group gave a \$120,000 (£75,000) ransom to a Cambodian who said he could get Christopher Howes out of the Khmer Rouge base of Anlong Veng. He never showed up and \$40,000 was returned in February.

Restrers - Phoon Pe

Everest climbers feared dead

Seven climbers are missing and feared dead on the northern face of Mount Everest, a New Zealand-led expedition said. The dead are believed to include three Kazakhs, one German and a Sherpa. AP - Christchurch

Prisoner releases ease tension India and Pakistan agreed to release each others' nationals held in prison and set up a telephone hotline to ease half a decade of tension. The Indian Prime Minister, Inder Kumar Gujral, and his Pakistani counterpart, Nawaz Sharif, decided to establish working groups to address issues dividing their countries. Reuters - Kurumba, Maldives

US military chief visits Peking

General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrived in China for a four-day visit, part of an effort to improve ties between the nations' forces. Washington and Peking have stressed the need for more exchanges between senior military leaders after tensions over Taiwan last year. AP - Pek

They stopped him working the land. So now he digs graves for children.



Give now. Call 0345 000 300

José and Maria Pereira will not forget the day they were evicted from the land they were working. "The landowners just ripped up our crops and threw them

Nor will they erase the memory of what happened next: how they joined with other families in a desperate search for land. how starvation took the lives of four of the children, all under two years old. "The ones who died were living on sugar and water" says Maria Pereira. "They just swelled up and died of hunger".

This is Brazil, where 100,000 children die each year from malnutrition. The cause, too often, is as simple as it is cruel: wealthy landowners deny land to families whose only means of support comes from growing crops to eat.

This country is one of the most unequal places on earth. A mere 75 ranchers own land the size of Britain. much of it unused. Christian Aid supports an organisation which helps desperate peasants settle on idle land and make it productive. In parallel, it works for the legal transfer of that land into the peasants' hands.

Please help us by giving all you can in Christian Aid Week, It is too late for those four children, but there is real hope for many more.

Yeltsin signs peace pact with Chechnya

In remarks which owe more to wishful thinking than anything in the hard print before him, Boris Yeltsin yesterday forecast an end to 400 years of conflict between Russia and Chechnya, and sought to prove his point by signing a peace treaty with the tiny Caucasian republic.

In a move that will further enrage his hawkish opponents, the Russian President signed the agreement at a highly publicised ceremony in the Kremlin during his first meeting with Aslan Maskhadov since the former separatist commander was elected President of Chechnya. The four-sentence document

commits both sides to a formal rejection of the use or threat of force, but it did not settle the issue of Chechnya's status, which continues to be a fundamental source of tension. Although an earlier agreement to postpone a settlement for five years remains unaltered, the document contains a clause saying both sides will develop relations according to the "norms of international law", a phrase which the Chechens are certain to seize on as an endorsement for their claim for independence.

Crucially, the signing of the accord, after a dangerous period of unease in the tiny Caucasus republic, suggests both sides are moving close to an agreement over oil - one of the issues that contributed to the Kremlin's decision to sent in the kets in the West. Furthermore, kremmi successor de la contessor de la contess



Maskhadov: Agreed treaty with Russian President

sulting in the loss of some 80,000 lives and by far the worst blot on Mr Yeltsin's Kremlin record.

Russia is legally bound to be ready by October to take delivery of early Caspian oil from Azerbaijan, via a pipeline which runs north-westwards, through Chechnya, to the Black Sea port of Novorossiisk. The Chechen section, which runs south of Grozny, is partly wrecked, peppered with holes, and vulnerahie to attack.

If the pipeline is not ready by the October deadline, Russia faces financial penalties. It would also have an even weakroute - as opposed to Westernfavoured routes via Georgia and Turkey - should be used for the crucial main export pipeline which will eventually carry Caspian oil from Baku to marwould lose sizeable income from transit tariffs - money which is desperately needed to rebuild the republic's infrastructure after a war that flattened its capital city, Grozny.

In a glimpse of the hard baraining now under way, the head of Chechnya's oil company yesterday said the Chechen section of the pipeline could be completed within a month if someone – presumably Russia - came up with \$2m (£1.2m).

Exactly how much weight yesterday's treaty will ultimately carry will depend on a multitude of factors. The mere sight of Mr Yeltsin sharing a platform with Mr Maskhadov, complete with his lambskin hat, will deepen the outrage already felt by hardliners in Russia who oppose the peace deal.

Those hardliners stand accused by the Chechen leadership of being to blame for trying to destroy peace in the region most recently, by staging bombings at railway stations in southern Russia; if this is true. then yesterday's events could trigger further disruption which could undermine the treaty.

But there are also considerable doubts over the ability of the Chechen authorities to maintain order in their own terer case for arguing that the same ritory. Armed bands of kidnappers have been been seizing iournalists, and demanding sixfigure ransoms. Last night, seven Russians were being held hostage in the region, including one of the commy's best-known female correspondents, the

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Turkish troops mass for Kurdish attack

Chris de Bellaigue

The Turkish army is intensifying its campaign against guer-rillas from the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), and has stepped up what appear to be preparations for an assault on the party's strongholds in north-

Over the course of the past 10 days, the military say that they have killed 174 PKK members in at least a dozen trouble spots in Turkey's South-east. Now, The Independent has learnt that between 50,000 and 70,000 troops, accompanied by armoured cars and artillery units, have gathered in preparation for an attack in northern Iraq, from where the PKK launch hit-and-run assaults on Turkish territory.

The Turkish authorities have made no comment on the buildup, but local sources say that the Army has positioned men along a 250km stretch of border, is busy laying roads, and has cancelled leave.

Observers think that the

Turkey claims the right - con-tested feebly by Saddam Hussein's government in Baghdad - to engage in what it calls "hot pursuit" of PKK militants some

distance into Iraqi territory. In recent years, this principle has been mobilised to justify cross-border operations involving tens of thousands of men. As Turkish F16s continue to soften up targets in northern Iraq, it looks as though the Turks are on the verge of using

To the frustration of academy-educated generals, however, less predictable factors must also be taken into account. The timing of a substantial incursion into northern Iraq depends in large measure on the attitude adopted by the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP), one of an array of Kurdish groups jostling for control of the safe haven in northern Iraq set up by the Allies at the end of the Gulf War, which has remained outside Saddam Hussein's con-

it controls much of Iraq's bor-Turkish military has planned an der with Turkey; KDP pesh-

terrain unfamiliar to Turkish PKK refers to as Kurdistan regular soldiers. The problem is that past experience seems to have made the KDP circum-

Before the Turks launched a big cross-border offensive last spring, it was agreed that, in return for co-operation, the KDP would benefit from observation facilities inside a "security zone" to be set up by the Turks inside northern Iraq. This zone along, some say, with promised cash and arms - never materi-

Last week, sources in Diyarbakir - from where the Turkish government implements its policy in the region - said that the Turkish army was negotiat-ing with KDP representatives in the border town of Silopi. The KDP must be convinced of the wisdom of supporting a fresh offensive against the well-armed, professionally-minded PKK, from whom they might expect retribution if things do not go according to plan.

Whatever the result of the ne-The KDP is important since gotiations, sceptics doubt controls much of Irag's bor- whether the Turks can deliver the decisive blow against the operation to try and wipe out mergas (guerrillas) make useful PKK which they have promised PKK camps in northern Iraq. guides through mountainous for so long. Much of what the

which includes chunks of Iran. Syria, Iraq and Turkey - might have been sculpted with guerrilla warfare in mind.

The PKK aiready controls an important chunk of land around their camp of Zap, 20km inside Iraqi territory. Zap is important for the PKK's developing political identity; it is here that their "government in exile", until now used to meeting in more salubrious European surroundings, is expected to move. This makes it the logical target of a Turkish operation.

Observers point out that in-

tensified activity in the area sits oddly alongside Turkey's official line: that their 13-year-long war with the PKK, which has cost more than 22,000 lives and displaced around 2.5 million peopie, has been all but won. The Turkish security forces are firefighting over a 400km-wide chunk of the country, and while they their often crude methods have squeezed rebel logistics inside Turkey, this had been achieved at the cost of public support, which remains directed overwhelmingly at the rebels, despite their own record of



Babe in arms: A Jewish settler shows his son how an Uzi machine-gun works as they visit an Israeli army weapons display at the West Bank settlement of Qedumim yesterday, Israel's 49th Independence Day

Rebels fear Saddam onslaught

Patrick Cockburn

Iraqi Kurds are fearful that Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi leader, is planning a fresh incursion into Kurdistan as Iraqi infantry and tanks mass in the plains below the Kurdish mountains. Iraq has accused the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), one of the Kurdish factions, of stopping the flow of water from two large reservoirs under its control.

Iraq captured Arbil, the Kurdish capital, last August from the PUK after intervening in the Kurdish civil war and handed it over to the Kurdistan Democratic Party, the rival Kurdish faction. In the last week the vernment in Baghdad has claimed that Iraq is being deliberately denied water because



Saddam Hussein: Accuses PUK of stopping water flow

at Durbendikhan and Dukan in eastern Kurdistan.

A PUK spokesman said yesterday in Ankara: "Recent deployment of Iraci armour in the

dikhan, has further increased that there is less water beconcerns for possible lraqi aggression." If the Iraqi troops do attack there is no way the lightly armed and poorly trained Kurdish forces could stop them driving a wedge into the PUK

Over the past four days the

equivalent of three divisions, one armoured, have been moved close to the front line of Iraqi government controlled territory, according to the Iraqi National Congress, an Iraqi opposition group. In recent days the Iraqi press has cited the Arab saying: "Cutting off heads is better than cutting off food." The same phrase was used when Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait in 1990.

The PUK denies that it is reducing the supply of water to Iraq, which flows from the two the PUK controls the reservoirs area of Kifri, south of Durben-reservoirs they control. It says

cause of poor rainfall. It is unlikely that the PUK would deliberately provoke Iraq at the moment because it is heavily reliant on Iranian support and has little money. Its rival, the KDP, controls the lucrative cross border trade in oil products between Iraq and Turkey.

The Iraqi motives for in-

creasing the political temperature at the moment are unclear. but the Kurds are pervous because three times in the past the invasion of Iran in 1980 and of Kuwait in 1990 as well as the incursion into Kurdistan last year - Saddam Hussein has gone further than anybody expected. The failure of the US and its allies to use their planes. which overfly northern Irac. against his tanks last year has underlined his military predominance in the area.

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Hitler's deserter cleared

Berlin (AP) - More than half a century after he was beheaded for desertion, a Catholic sexton was cleared by a Berlin court yesterday of a Nazi-era conviction for refusing to serve in Hitler's army.

Franz Jäegerstäetter, who was drafted after the annexation of his native Austria, sought to be excused for service in Hitler's army for religious reasons.

His appeal to be assigned

non-combat duty was refused, and a field court sentenced him to death in July 1943 for treason. The Nazis executed numerous religious faithful who sought exemption from military service, or were singled out for other acts of resistance.

The Berlin court has been actively reviewing Nazi-era ver-dicts at the request of survivors, religious organisations or others, and last spring lifted convictions against three people.

Jäegerstäetter's widow petitioned the court to dismiss the conviction before the 90th anniversary of his birth, on 20 May.

The Catholic diocese in Linz, Austria has begun investigations necessary to beatify Jaegerstäetter, a step toward sainthood.



Iran o

Stelen fra

John Lichfield visits Maubeuge, a key seat in parliamentary elections

The Mayor of Manbeuge is struggling patiently to explain a paradox. Yes, his town is one of the key, swing constituencies in the French parliamentary elegions. Yes its position mentary elections. Yes, its position, on the Belgian border, within 100 miles of five EU countries, means that its future prosperity lies with Europe not just with France. But, no, his constituents - he is the sitting, centre-right MP - have little enthusiasm for the election campaign. And, no, they have no interest in the European questions on which the election was supposedly called by President

Blinkered apathy? Doubtless, that would be the Parisian viewpoint. Jean-Claude Decagny, 58, comes up with a more poetic phrase: "Their valley is their whole life."

"Me, I am fiercely European. Anyone who thinks about the future of France, and especially of Maubeuge, has to be European. But, to be quite honest with you, Europe is not something which voters think about or care about, even here, 70 kilo-metres from Brussels. They care about jobs, Europe means jobs. But they will not make the connection." What else do they care about? The

local impact of immigration; local crime rates; and the fact that the motorway and TGV line pass 30 miles to the west, leaving Maubeuge in a kind of transport limbo.

All politics are local; and geogra-phy is history. The story of Maubeuge is a history of collisions between these two truisms. Precisely 57 years ago today, the town, which lay across the route of the invading German army, was flattened by the Luftwaffe. In the 1980s, the heavy-metal industries of the Sambre valley were devastated by obsolescence and international competition. Maubeuge recovered, in pleasant, concrete anonymity, from the first calamity but is still paying, with 22 per cent unemploy-



Maubeuge is, in Peter Snow terms, a key marginal, a naturally left-wing seat which went to the centre-right in 1993 as part of a nationwide revulsion against Mitterandism. But no swingometer could help much here. The cleverest chess-playing com-puter would have trouble in sorting out the mish-mash of local and national arguments on 25 May between 13 candidates, including a powerful National Front challenger, two rival Socialists and 10 left-wingers.

ning with as little reference as possible to the unpopular coalition to which he belongs in Paris. The Socialists are divided between official and unofficial candidates, because local activists refused to accept the official choice, Jacqueline Bard. She was imposed, they say, by dubious means, to achieve the national target of a 30 per cent female field of candidates. (Her opponents say the problem is not that she is a woman, cent: not of those voting, but of those

The mayor, Mr Decagny, is run-but that she is an outsider). The unofficial Socialist, Umberto Battist, is the former MP. He is still on the national committe of the party and vice President of the regional council. It was precidely this kind of Socialist disarray which Mr Chirac hoped to provoke with an early poll.

The outcome in Maubeuge depends on whether Mr Battist makes it into the second round on 1 June. eligible to vote. On a low turnout, he might need 20 per cent of the actual votes cast. If Mr Battist fails to on similarly local, abstruse, opinion qualify, the mayor will certainly win poll-defying calculations. the second round against the Front National on 1 June; if he succeeds, the seat will be a three-way toss-up.

Decagny again, or to Mr Battist. In short, the politics of Maubeuge is a mess, but a fascinating mess and

It could go to the far-right; to Mr

tion which could throw out political calculations across Europe - depend

It was supposed to be quite clear. France (according to President Chirac) had to choose between the bold direction taken by the government (shrinking the state; entering the single currency) and confusions of the left (renegotiating Maastricht; spending money to create jobs). In fact, Europe - and the euro -

Poverty gap: Women watch a tramp leaving St Pierre and St Paul church in Maubeuge, a marginal seat in forthcoming parliamentary elections Photograph: Brian Harris

have hardly played a part in the cam-paign so far. One would have expected the single currency, at least, to be an issue in Maubeuge, where four in 10 of people using the local supermarkets are Belgian; where petrol stations hardly exist because everyone fills up in the next country; where the local discotheques have been put out of business by the cheap (and livelier) ones over the border in Mons. (Maubeuge must be the only place in the world where Mons

is a by-word for a fun-time). Phillipe Szymczak, 34, who runs a hardware business in Maubeuge, says the euro is a non-issue: "There is no great enthusiasm for the sin-gle currency, but no great opposition either. If people think about it at all, there is a kind of fatalism, an acceptance that the euro is probably the right thing for a medium-sized country like France. But also some anxiety about loss of control and sovereignty.'

The most common complaint from the people of Maubeuge is that they are a forgotten town, at the scrag-end of a départment which is itself the scrag-end of France. This seems to be an absurdly pessimistic and old-fashioned reading of the atlas. Turn the page, and you see that Maubeuge is at the heart of the most prosperous part of the European

Mr Battist says this argument may be correct, in the long term. But like the government's arguments about EMU, it is too abstract to have much meaning in real campaign politics. "Twenty years, 10 years from now, Europe will bring us prosperity. That means something to the clever people in offices in Paris. I believe it myself. But it means nothing to a man who is unemployed. He wants to know how he is going to make ends meet next week, not in 10 years' time. It's no use showing the atlas of Europe to him.

Rafsanjani tours Iran quake zone

Steven Swindelis

Qayen, Iran - The Iranian president interrupted a foreign visit yesterday to inspect devastation caused by the huge earthquake which killed about 2,400 people at the weekend.

Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani flew to Birjand, one of two regions in eastern Iran rocked by Saturday's quake, from neighbouring Turkmenistan. He visited villages in the

area at the Afghan border before heading to Qayen, near the epicentre of the earthquake which levelled some 200 villages and injured some 6,000 people. Survivors of the quake were

Hitler

deserte

cleared

still scrambling among the ruins of their homes and burying their dead yesterday while waiting for international aid in response to an appeal by the Iranian government. An Iranian Red Crescent

spokesman said rescue workers would comb the quake-stricken areas one more time for survivors and bodies before winding up their operations.

In the rubble of the villages hit hardest, men, women and children wept and wailed and picked through the debris of their mud-brick homes searching for something to salvage. the Iranian news agency said. A new quake hit north-west

Iran vesterday, but there were no casualties or damage, the news agency said. About 1,000 people were killed there by a quake in February. Quake-prone Iran, accus-

tomed to dealing with natural disasters, appealed through the United Nations for international aid. Iran's Gulf Arab neighbours Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates said they were flying in aid. So did Egypt. Clare Short, Britain's new

The government said it would pay 500,000 rials (£103) to Secretary of State for International Development, yesterday disaster contribution. She said the money would go to the Red Crescent, the Iranian arm of the Red Cross. A Scottish-based rescue group, the International Rescue Corps, which specialises in rescuing trapped people, said its offer of help to Iran has been turned down.

The German Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel, said that Bonn would not let a diplomatic row with Iran get in the way of helping the country's earthquake victims and pledged 500,000 German marks (£183,000) in relief.



In ruins: A car lies beneath the rubble of an education ministry building in the village of Qayen Photograph: AFP

How to win the colonel's trust by passing the old grey testicle test

There is no doubt it was the turning point in our conversation. The colonel stopped feeding carp bones to the ducks at with the relish of a chef selecting an especially tasty morsel for a favoured client -

handed me a testicle. To eat. Soldiers distrust journalists; always have, always will. In the West, they corral us into reporting pools, harpoon us with accreditation badges, and woo us with threats and flattery. In Azerbaijan, more traditional methods apply. Woe betide those who balk at a ball, albeit one that merely hung between

the woolly thighs of a sheep. We had been dining for about an hour, sheltering from the sun at a small table in a pavilion beside a lake in this border fiefdom – poppy-dotted meadows, vineyards and cedar groves that roll over the hills vestwards towards Armenia. Barbecued lamb had come and gone. We had shared com-fed chicken, walnuts, long leaves of fresh tarragon, fresh carp from the lake, and slithers of ivory-

white sheep's cheese. But Col Murad Hadimov, though impeccably polite, re-mained aloof. It was obvious he was manifestly unconvinced by this civvy, this mufti-clad western journalist who had swept in from miles away to inspect the there by rumours of fresh fighting with the Armenians.

Moreover, I had disgraced myself by asking an incomprehensibly foolish question; for reasons that can only be explained by rote-learning social niceties, and perhaps also by his

6 He singled out pieces of meat for me ... imploring me to eat with my hands 9

pale and burly features, I asked him what nationality he was, imagining that he might be part-Russian. A proud Azer-baijani, he did not reply. Not, at any rate, verbally. I passed the testicle test for

two reasons. To be frank, I thought I had been given an eye. As it travelled from hand to mouth, it seemed to to have a doleful greyish gaze. Only when

stinct - some inner voice, triggered by its texture - whisper bali, bali, bali".

AZERBAIJAN DAYS

Confirmation came when one of the colonel's colleagues, pleased to see it swallowed, cried "testikyule!" By then, it was too late. I had also shared several vodka toasts, to ourselves, our hosts, Azerbaijan's shrewd president, Haidai Aliyev, and so on, which soft-

ened the blow. The colonel seemed pleased to see his offering consumed. He rewarded us with a toast to journalists "with fire in their hearts" - a reference, one assumes, to one's passion for the job, rather that the heart-burn that seemed certain to follow. Throughout the meal he had

singled out pieces of meat for me, including a large lump of white sheep's fat and a slither of heart, imploring me to to eat with my hands. "Guests come out of the skies, but are all from the same earth. Put your fork aside and eat with your fingers."

But testicles were of a different order. They were only to be eaten by men, he explained (partly for the benefit of my fe-male colleague from the Melwith a toast to her bravery as a woman). It was clear they were a testimony to one's potential for bravery, one's credentials as a solid fellow, who could be trusted to listen to Azerbaijan's

grievances about Armenia's oc-

cupation of Nagorno-Karabakh

6 Only when it was in my mouth did some instinct whisper 'ball, ball, ball' 🤊

and seriously discuss the threeyear ceasefire, which has held, albeit shakily, despite Russia's gift to Yerevan of \$1bn worth of arms, including Scud missiles. Journalism in the former So-

viet Union is full of such trials. Here, the public relations industry - the curse of the serious news gatherer - is largely absent. Our chief scourge comprises of-ficials who, when asked a sim-

ple question, reply with "let me remind you of our history" followed by a half-hour speech; a passion for paperwork, and inboth an act of hospitality and an attempt to check you out.

But it is worth enduring. Like a First World War officer, replete after an excellent lunch, Col Hadimov announced that it was time to set off for the front. We washed our hands in vodka; pulled on some khaki uniforms, climbed into a jeep and rattled off over the hills.

High in the woods, the colonel showed us his fresh-faced troops in their trenches, staring intently through the trees, listening for suspicious movements from the other side but hearing only cuckoos and woodpeckers. We were shown trees dotted with bullet holes; we were introduced to a bandaged young man, apparently one of six injured in violence the day before.

Of these matters, more at another time. But as we strode along the border I found myself wondering: would I have seen this, and have been allowed to report it, without accepting the colonel's offer? One will never know. However, it lends a new meaning to Voltaire's remark that "the composition of a tragedy requires testicles".

Phil Reeves

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Professor Campbell Stewart

Campbell Stewart died while on a visit to Keele University. This was peculiarly fitting as he had given 30 years of his life to the university, first as founding Professor of Education and later as its Vice-Chancellor.

To the wider world of scholarship Stewart was well-known for his substantial studies of the Quakers in education, of their "progressive" school movement. and for editing Karl Mannheim's posthumous papers, as well as for serving on many public bodies. In retirement he lived in Sussex and his five-year Honorary Visiting Professorial Fellowship at Sussex University enabled him to complete Higher Education in Postwar Britain (1989), a survey he was well placed to undertake.

William Alexander Campbell Stewart was born in Glasgow in 1915 but grew up in

London, attending Colfe's his two-volume study of The Grammar School and Univer- Educational Innovators (1967- partment and then the Institute sity College, London. An enthusiasm for acting and many sports can be blamed for the modest class of his first degree in English and made the polio which left one arm paralysed in 1954 a particularly cruel blow.

His first teaching post was at the Friends' School, Saffron Walden, where he was a housemaster from 1938 to 1943, before moving to Abbotsholme, Derbyshire (1943-44), where he was later to serve on the governing body for two decades. These years both reflected his interest in the humane, progressive fringe of the independent sector in education and provided the foundation for two of his major books, The Quakers and Education (1953.

68), which appeared in shortened form in 1972 as Progressives and Radicals in English Education. He lectured in Education at University College, Nottingham, and then at the University of Wales in Cardiff between 1944 and 1950, and it was at this time that he married Ella - the beginning of

his daughter was born. It is hardly surprising that Stewart was attracted to the new, wholly residential and experimental University College of North Staffordshire. Lord Lindsay, the college's founder, appointed him at the age of 34 to the Chair of Education in 1950 and Stewart's son was the first child to be born at the new college. A daunting task lay

a wonderful partnership - and

of Education. As all students initially took a four-year degree, teacher-training had to be an integrated part of the degree programme with teaching practice arranged in vacation time. The Education Department could not be marginalised and ignored by the rest of the academic community and it is a measure of Stewart's determination and tenacity - qualities which some might see as peculiarly Scottish - that the study

flourished at Keele. During this period he held visiting professorships at McGill University in Montreal and the University of California in Los Angeles; and a senior Simon Fellowship at Manchester University. As Acting Principal at

of education at every level

Keele after the death of Sir George Barnes in 1960 he kept a steady hand on the tiller and it was unsurprising that his colleagues chose him as Vice-Chancellor in 1967, the university's fifth Principal in its short history.

It was a difficult time: Keele had been an awkward adolescent born during the post-war peri-od of austerity. The new universities of the early Sixties had profited from Keele's experience, adopted many of its innovations and stolen the limelight. The four-year degree and resi-dence for all students were seen by the government as unsustainable extravagances. Diffi-cult decisions had to be taken. Moreover, the universities were soon overtaken by the student troubles of which Keele had, perhaps, more than its fair share.

Some of the events of the hot summer of 1970 were serious cases of criminal damage, others merely comic. One night hundreds of students surrounded the Vice-Chancellor's residence and tried to levitate it by humming. Legend has it that another noisy demonstration was dispersed not with a whiff of grapeshot but by a porter reminding the demonstrators that Dr Who was about to start on television. Throughout. Stewart retained his sense of humour, and his unruffled moderation and good sense ensured that the university's business of teaching and examining continued uninterrupted despite sit-ins and much

adverse publicity.

The leadership he gave the university in calmer times was similarly marked by tact, pa-

tience, a belief in democratic decision-taking and unfailing courtesy. He brought the same qualities to the work of many public bodies on which he served both before and after his retirement, among them the National Advisory Council for Childcare, the Advisory Council on the Supply and Training of Teachers, the Universities Council for Adult Education and the Council of the Open University.

In private, Campbell Stewart was a warm and humorous man, an engaging conversationalist and raconteur and a loyal friend, husband and

Michael Paffard

William Alexander Campbell Stewart, educationist and university administrator: born Glas-



Stewart: educational innovators

gow 17 December 1915; Assistant Lecturer and Lecturer, University College, Nottingham 1944-47; Lecturer in Education, University of Wales (Cardiff) 1947-50; Professor of Education, University College of North Staffordshire (Keele University from 1962) 1950-67 (Emeritus), Vice-Chancellor 1967-79; married 1947 Ella Burnett (one son, one daughter); died Keele, Staffordshire 23 April 1997.

Alistair Grant

For 35 years Alistair Grant, the Royal College of Art and Printmaking were indivisible: 35 generations of artists learnt printmaking from him. Yet throughout his life Grant was as well known an artist as a teacher. He was a painter and a printmaker of considerable ability, and in his printmaking he was a great experimentalist. He fused media – litho with silkscreen. silk-screen with etching and often all three together.

Although born in London, he was half French. His mother was from Etaples on the coast of northern France. Grant went to school in Etaples and always retained the family home there. The region became the deeply rooted inspiration for much of his work throughout his life.

During the Second World War, he served as an air-crew wireless operator and was stationed in Egypt, where he met his first wife Phyllis Fricker. After the war, he was accepted into the Painting School of the Roval College of Art, graduating in 1950. Five years later he returned as Tutor in Printmaking. He became the Head of Department in 1970, and was made Professor in 1984.

Grant was the consummate head of department. His stated philosophy was that print-making students should be encouraged not only to make prints but to paint and sculpt as well. (He himself exhibited widely on an international basis and his work is represented in major collections worldwide.) He insisted that all the teaching staff should be practising artists. He had a keenly matched by an independence of mind and a toughness common to many of the staff who had been to art school following the experience of the war.

He loved the college, and enioved the tussles involved in promoting the interests of printmaking. When I was ap-pointed to succeed him on his

retirement from the college in 1990. I was the beneficiary of the best printmaking department in the country.

I had also been a student of Grant's in the mid-Seventies. His students occupied a department bursting with equipment, expertise, confidence and energy. Grant was a tough taskmaster. He believed that strong criticism not only helped the work but engendered resilience - a commodity that would be much valued after graduation.

He was also an initiator. As a young tutor he had seen the potential of screenprinting for artists and introduced it into the department. He incorporated photo-imagery and encouraged wide artistic practice - making books, painting, sculpture, pho-tography, drawing - all of which he believed made the artist bigger by informing the work more deeply.

Grant also had a strong en-

trepreneurial streak. In the Eighties he initiated the Royal College's Printmaking Appeal Fund which published two of the most important print portfolios of the last few decades in order to raise funds for the printmaking students.

He brought an enormous professionalism and vision to these projects. Almost every important British artist of the second half of the century is represented. The initiative continues at the college and, in fact, Grant's last print, Fêle Cham-pêtre, a combination of litho and silk-screen in 18 colours, was made for The Royal College of Art Centenary portfolio, pub-lished in November 1996, and exhibited at the Victoria and Albert Museum as part of The Spirit of the Staircase, an exhibition which celebrated 100 vears of print publishing at the Royal College of Art.

Alistair Grant was a large personality, a hon viveur. At the college he made sure that things in the Senior Common Room



The best printmaking department in the country: Grant in his office at the Royal College of Art, London, 1978 Photograph: Frank Thurston

were as they should be - properly convivial. Through his French roots he was a knowledgeable chairman of the wine committee. His table at lunchtime was raucous. He was very likeable and very good company. He enjoyed telling his

vast repertoire of jokes. Over the years his moved from figuration to abstraction. The colour, the forms and the hints of landscape became evocative of his native Pas de Calais. He was broadly skilled and was often commissioned to do illustrations. He was the hand behind the paintings in the Tony Hancock film The Rebel (1960). He made

both sets of paintings for the film, "the good ones and the bad ones - whichever way around that might be".

He was a great collector, often to be seen in the West End salerooms or early in the morning in Portobello Road, in Bermondsey market or in recent years in outer London car

He loved a bargain. He drove a hard one and had nerves of steel. He often told with relish of the occasion when he spotted two original Toulouse-Lautrec posters for sale in Portobello Road for a few pounds and, knowing them to

nevertheless bargained the price down. His home was several storeys tall and packed with furniture, art-deco figures, thousands of corkscrews, bricà-brac and curios punctuated by the work of Henry Moore, William Scott and other friends.

His later years were touched by sadness. His first wife, to whom he had been married for nearly 40 years, died in 1988. His second wife, Joan Strickland, who had worked with him at the Royal College, died in 1995.

After leaving the Royal College, Grant concentrated on his work, exhibiting both in France and in England. His later works be worth a small fortune, he are amongst his very best. His 12 April 1997.

colours are strong and fresh full of light and space, place and memory. He spent his time between London, Etaples and Paris, where his only daughter Emma lives with his two granddaughters.

Tim Mara

Duncan Alistair Antoine Grant, printmaker and painter, born London 3 June 1925; staff, Royal College of An 1955-90, Head of Printmaking Department 1970-90, Professor of Prinanaking 1984-90 (Emeritus): married 1949 Phyllis Fricker (died 1988; one daughter), 1991 Joan Strickland (died 1995); died London

Iris Lemare

Iris Lemare will be remembered not only as one of the first women to have a career as a conductor but also as a fervent advocate of young British com-posers. In the Thirties she helped to form, run, and conduct the Macnaghten-Lemare Concerts (from 1934 to 1937 the Lemare Conerts), often with the help of the composer Elisabeth

Her father was the wellknown organist Edwin Lemare. Iris went to Bedales and then to Geneva to study at the Dal-croze / Eurythmics School. Later, at the Royal College of Music in London, she studied organ under George Thalben-Ball and won the Dove Prize. She also entered Malcolm Sargent's conducting class, where she always remembered the kindness of her fellow student Michael Tippett. It seems that Sargent chose students to conduct, but never picked the only girl in the class until Tippett pushed her forward one day. She also studied, as Tippett did, with Adrian Boult and received great support from him.

It was in 1931 that she started the concerts with Elisabeth Lutyens and the violinist Anne Macnaghten. At that time performances were very thin on the ground for British composers. Lemare conducted several of Britten's early works, including the premiere of his Sinfonietta opus I and later his choral "A Boy was Born . She also premiered several works by Alan Rawsthorne, Christian Darnton, Elizabeth Maconchy and many others. At one concert the back desk of her strings included Benjamin Britten, viola, and

Elisabeth Lutyens, violin. heard at the Macnaghten-Lemare Concerts, many of them by women (though it was by no means a feminist organisation) and many by composers who became well-known later on.

Lemare became the first woman to conduct the BBC

Symphony Orchestra, in 1937. and she also conducted the Oxford Chamber Orchestra and the Carlyle Singers. She loved opera and conducted Handel's Nerxes amongst other works in the late 1930s at Pollards, a house in Essex belong-

ing to the Howard family.

During the Second World War she founded the Lemare Orchestra. She featured many new or little-known works and her soloists included Joan Hammond, Benno Moiseivitch. Geza Anda, Peter Donohoe and many others. In the 1970s she worked in opera and presented works by Menotti, Maconchy and Britten, and the premiere of John McCabe's The Play of Mother Courage.

On her 80th birthday, when asked what she would like for a present she declared "a concert", and got one, given by many musician friends. It included a Mozart Concerto played by John McCabe and a piece especially written for the occasion by Elizabeth Maconchy. The following year she was invited by the BBC Singers to conduct a 50th anniversary performance of Britten's "A Boy was Born".

The last time I saw Lemare was in her 90th year at her little house at Askham Bryan near York. By this time she was unable to walk, crippled by a skiing accident only a few years previously. Up to then she had been a keen walker, bird-watcher, swimmer and skier; she was also a dab hand at campanology. She talked about her life with pleasure, no sentimentality and no regrets; she thought she had done ber best by music even if she had not hit the heights. Some 40 new works were She was a lady of charm, warmth and enthusiasm.

Iris Margaret Elsie Lemare, conductor and concert organiser: born London 27 September 1902; died Askham Bryan, Yorkshire 23 April 1997.

Paulo Freire

Paulo Freire, the Brazilian educationist, was one of the most influential philosophers of his generation.

He was born into a middleclass Catholic family in Recife in north-eastern Brazil in 1921. Despite the relative wealth of his family, he experienced poverty during the Depression of the 1930s, but unlike most children was able to complete secondary school and go on to study law at Recife University. There he met Elza, a teacher, whom he married in 1944.

He became a teacher of Portuguese and under the influence of his mother, got involved in church organisations as a means of addressing the injustices he saw around him. However, he rapidly became aware of the limits of charitable work and the

need to move from working "for the people" to working "with the people".

In the 1950s Freire lived and worked in the slum areas of Recife and increasingly focused his efforts on tackling the problem of adult literacy: "It seemed to me profoundly unjust that men and women were not able to read and write". Equally he recognised illiteracy as "just one of the concrete expressions of an unjust social reality". As a result he developed a new approach to literacy which linked "learning to read the word with

learning to read the world".
In 1959 Freire wrote a doctoral thesis on his experiences of teaching literacy which was so well received that he was appointed Chair of the Philosophy of Education in Recife University. In 1962 he became coordinator of a large literacy programme in Recife and the next year was appointed head of the Brazilian National Literacy Programme. He planned to establish 20,000 literacy groups known as "culture circles".

However, following a military coup in 1964, the Brazilian Literacy programme was terminated. Freire was imprisoned. accused of subversion, and subsequently exiled to Bolivia and then Chile. He took these developments as confirmation of his theory that "no education is neutral" commenting: "I was jailed precisely because of the political nature of education". In the following years, whilst working on adult education

Reform in Chile. Freire's ideas

Sutcliffe MP, 44; Sir Conrad Swan,

genealogist, 73; Marquess Town-shend, former chairman, Anglia

Television, 81; Sir Timothy Walker, High Court judge, 51; Miss Zoe Wanamaker, actress, 48; Mr Stevie

Freire: reading the world with the Institute of Agrarian



matured and he started writing what would become his seminal work Pedagogy of the Oppressed (1970). Through this radical pedagogy, he hoped, adults would learn to perceive social, dictions and would take action against the oppessive elements of reality (a process that Freire called "conscientisation").

In the book, Freire coudemned traditional education systems, which he called "banking systems", where students are passive recipients of deposits from an "all-knowing" teacher. In contrast he proposed an education based on dialogue, generating a permanent process of reflection and action:

If learning to read and write is to con-stitute an act of knowing, the learners must assume from the beginning the role of creative subjects. It is not a matfole of creative singers. It is not a nat-ter of memorising and repeating giv-en syllables, words and phrases, but rather, of reflecting critically on the process of reading and writing itself and the profound significance of language.

Although Freire's writings

had a dual or a single purpose.

Although the commissioner

political and economic contra- are theoretically complex and often difficult to read, it is a testament to their power that he is, to this day, the most widely quoted education thinker in Latin America, Africa and Asia helped by the fact that his work

is available in 35 languages. By the time *Pedagogy of the* Oppressed was published in English in 1972, Freire was already being acclaimed internationally as "the authentic voice of the Third World". He became a visiting professor at Harvard University and later a special consultant to the World Council of Churches in Geneva. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s he travelled widely, attending conferences and seminars, and supporting radical education programmes, in countries as diverse as Mozam-

bique, Angola, Guinea Bissau. India, Tanzania, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Nicaragua and El Salvador. He first visited London in 1973, returning to Britain in 1987 when he helped review the Edinburgh Adult Learning Programme. He was most recently in London in October 1993, when he attracted large crowds at the Institute of Education.

As democracy returned to Brazil in the 1980s, Freire was able to return to his homeland, where he became closely involved in the Workers' Party, which won control of the state of São Paulo and nearly won presidential elections in 1989. He became Secretary for Education in São Paulo for a short period before retiring in order to dedicate himself to writing.

The most recent of his 25 major publications, Pedagogy of Hope (1992), started off as a new preface to Pedagogy of the Oppressed but evolved into a book in its own right.

In March 1996, as Guest of Honour at the World Conference on Literacy in Philadelphia. Freire was as charismatic, absorbing and radical as ever. He succeeded in reaching a new generation of educationists who, with his inspiration, continue to work for an empowering and liberating approach to education around the world.

David Archer

Paulo Freire, educationist; born Recife, Brazil 19 September 1921; married 1944 (first wife died 1986), 1988 Ana Marie Araujo; died São Paulo 2 May 1997.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

PEPPER: Rosemary (née Earle). Died on 8 May, at Loadhams Nursing Home, Famham. Much loved and missed by her children Jeony and Termassed by the Children Jedny; and licronic and grandchildren Asia. Date and Guy. Funeral service at the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham, at 2pm on 14 May. No flowers, Donations if desired to Conquest (Society for Art for the Physically Disabled), 3 Beverley Close, East Ewell, Epsom KT17 3HB.

SUTTON-VANE: Vage, died 8 May 1997, aged 79 years. Beloved husband of Anne, dear father of Mark, Julia. of Anne, ocar father of Mark, Juha, Angela and Alexander and grandfa-ther of Edward. Funeral at Salisbury Crematorium at 2.20pm on 19 May, Family flowers only, but donations if desired to RNLI, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BHIS 1HZ.

Amount cases for Cazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS may be telephoned to 0171-293 2012 or fused to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT entra). OTHER Gazette appearancements must be submitted in writing (or fused) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra.

Birthdays

Sir Crispin Agnew of Lochnaw Bt, ex-plorer and genealogist, 53; Mr Dirk Aldous, chief constable, Dorset, 53; Mr Paul Burstow MP, 35; Miss Eileen Diss, theatrical designer, 66; Mr Colin Ford, Director, National Muscum of Wales, 63; Mr Peter Gabriel, singer and songwriter, 47; Dr Jane Glover, conductor, 48; Sir John Habakkuk, former Principal, Jesus College, Oxford, 82; Sir John Johnston, former diplomat, 79; Sir Lau-rence Kirwan, archaeologist, 90; The Earl of Leven and Melville, Lord-Lieutenant of Nairn, 73; Sir Paul Osmond, former senior civil servant, 80; The Earl of Perth, former Government minister, 90; Mr Tim Pigott-Smith, actor, 51; Sir Alfred Pugaley, civil engineer, 94; Miss Selina Scott, television presenter, 46; Miss Helen Sharman, astronaut, 34; Mr Gerry

Anniversaries Births: Dante Alighieri, poet, 1265; Daphne du Maurier, author, 1907; Joe Louis, boxer, 1914. Deaths: Gary Cooper, actor, 1961. On this day: the first permanent English settlemen was made at Jamestown, Virginia 1607. Today is the Feast Day of St Andrew Hubert Fournet, St Erconwald, St Euthymius the Enlightener, St Glyceria of Heraclea, St John the Silent, St Mucius or Mocius, St Peter Regalatus, St Servatius or Servais and St Solomon.

Wonder, singer, 47.

Institute. Scriptsh Sprin Council. Edubanja, and open the Pringle Change Collegion. Revail Bottonic Guiden Edubangh. The Dube of Guestenpe, Prevolent. S Berthologies' is Hougala, 1996 as a miss run at the hot putst. London ECI, Princess Alexandra attends the 50 Americanse, Council of the London Phillisten rule Chol at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7. ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS INCLIA L. ENVERAGED/ILEM LS
The Queen, accompanied by The Dute of Edinburgh,
attends is service as Westminister Adver, London
SWI, to mesh the address issuantial of Sackfi Cureon helds.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Founder and Chairman of the
International Projects, gives a lunch to the Duke of
Edinburch a Neural International Association at Ruckapplian Phalose; and so Colond-In-Chee Reval Eletrapian Phalose; and so Colond-In-Chee Reval Eletrapian Phalose; and so Colond-In-Chee
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Changing of the Guard The Household Cavahy Mounted Regiment mounts the Onorth's Life Guard at Bertallon South Guard at mounts the Quarte Guard, of Battallon South Guards mounts the Quarte Guard, of

Cost of defending disciplinary hearing was deductible

McKnight (HM Inspector of Taxes) v Sheppard; Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Mummery) 7 May 1997

Where a special commissioner found as a fact that a taxpayer's conscious motive in incurring legal expenses to defend disciplinary proceedings brought by the Stock Exchange was solely to avoid the destruction of his business, those expenses were deductible in computing the

profits of the trade. The Court of Appeal allowed the taxpayer's appeal against the decision of Mr Justice Lightman reversing the special commissioner's

The commissioner had found that legal expenses incurred by the taxpayer in respect of disciplinary proceedings against him for alleged breaches of the rules and regulations of the

LAW REPORT

Stock Exchange were wholly and exclusively expended for the had not accepted that the taxpurposes of his trade as a stockbroker within section 130(a) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, and were therefore deductible in computing the amount of the profits of the David Goldberg QC (who did not ap-

pear below) and Hugh McKay (Dun-derdale Wignall, Manchester) for the texpayer, Timothy Brennan (Inland Revenue Solicitor) for the Crown. Lord Justice Nourse said that it seemed clear from the commissioner's decision that both sides had proceeded on the footing that he was engaged in determining whether, in incurring the expenditure, the taxpayer

13 May 1997

payer was wholly unconcerned with his personal reputation, he had expressly accepted his evidence that his conscious motive in incurring the expenditure was solely to avoid the destruction of his business. Even before an appellate triprofits in the trade. bunal which was conducting a rehearing, that finding would have been unimpeachable.

On the Crown's appeal by way of case stated, the question for the High Court had been whether, on the facts found, no person acting judicially and properly instructed as to the relevant law could have determined that the avoidance of the destruction of the taxpaver's business was indeed the sole purpose for which the expenditure had been incurred.

The basis of the judge's decision was that, in order to be deductible, the expenditure must not only be wholly and exclusively incurred for the purposes of the trade, but also sufficiently connected with the carrying on and earning of

He held that that connection did not exist where the expenditure was incurred in a course of conduct outside the ordinary course of the trade; that legal expenses incurred in defending a trader against successful disciplinary proceedings involving serious and deliberate breaches of the relevant rules and standards were incurred outside the ordinary course of the trade; that in the present case the taxpayer had been found guilty of serious and deliberate depar-

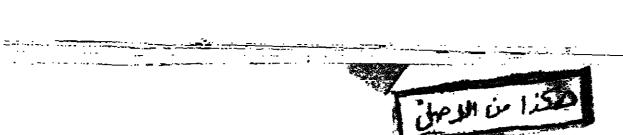
Exchange and the ordinary, proper and lawful conduct of his trade; and that the expenses incurred in respect of the disciplinary proceedings were therefore not deductible.

The authorities all adopted the single test which the words of section 130(a) required to be adopted. The second requirement suggested by the judge was only an aid in deciding whether or not the first had been satisfied.

The decisive objection to the basis of the judge's decision was that the commissioner had not been asked to determine, and had not determined, whether the legal expenses had been incurred outside the ordinary course of the trade.

The taxpayer's appeal would be allowed, and the commissioner's determination restored.

Kate O'Hanion, Barrister



Foreign policy needs a portrait in realism

ordered the removal of the official portrait behind the Foreign Secretary's desk, that of a nondescript 19thcentury colonial official. Instead he wants something forward looking, more appropriate to the modern talk about human rights, trade and environment heard yesterday when he introduced Labour's mission statement. But what?

Who is an appropriate icon for Britain abroad on the cusp of the 21st century? Perhaps Mr Cook should hold off touring the National Portrait Gallery until he has given us a more considered version of what Labour's foreign policy is to be. All praise for the way he opened the batting with his public mission statement. He has got the rhetoric out of the way early and can now concentrate on specifics. But don't we still need a bit more rigour in thinking through the foreign and defence stances - and the interplay between them - of a Britain hovering around eighth in the list of world powers as measured by economic potency? Where were the signais, vesterday, to George Robertson, the Secretary of State for Defence, and his forthcoming defence review? Is it steady as you go, or a heavy tilt to port?

The Foreign Secretary has been busy of

late; perhaps he has missed the latest

recruitment advertisements of the

Royal Air Force which seem to suggest

that the rationale for this expensive mil-

Iris Lemare

y their wall-hangings shall ye know them. Robin Cook has to the starving. Is that the purpose of

the new European fighter? There is no point in looking for some comprehensively coherent statement, good for all time, that is equally relevant in Riga and Riyadh. British foreign policy will always be messy. There are, after all, scores of new Labour MPs with defence installations in their backyard who will quickly become supporters of the military-industrial status quo. Meanwhile, Mr Cook's talk of leadership in Europe is both ambitious and ambiguous. This is a country, after all, whose public and political class - Robin Cook included - mostly entertains a conception of European unity essentially different from that held in France, Germany and Italy. How revealing was his definition of what he would like the EU to be: a union of independent nations working together merely when they have common problems.

British foreign policy is cursed by its imperial history, having to deal with the fag ends of Empire on a string of islands and dependencies across the globe. Labour will find the Falklands and Gibraltar no less intractable than their predecessors. As for the environment: thanks to John Gummer, the Rio summit gave Britain an international reputation for environmental leadership. It has since been betrayed by the absence of domestic policy change. If Robin Cook starts talking green abroad, he



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should make sure local authorities, railway operators, road toll-chargers and Treasury taxmen are all in line at home. It would indeed be welcome if British

officials could in future be relied upon to think about the human rights consequences of their actions. But Foreign Secretaries need to take care. High ethical banter at the conference table has to be matched by the practice of British visa issuers in Islamabad and the eavesdropping by British intelligence gatherers in Cheltenham (unionised or not). An unstintingly ethical approach to foreign affairs would forbid trade with China and make negotiation with Lau-

rent Kabila tricky; yet both are necessary, for the sake of British interests, and because pursuit of the least bad alternative is not an ignoble way of conducting affairs. If he is in the market for portraits, Robin Cook might do worse than nip round to No 10 and contemplate WE Gladstone, who stormed into power on the back of a human rights campaign but within months was ordering the bombardment of foreign ports.

Mr Cook might also usefully spend few moments communing with his colleague Baroness Blackstone, the new Labour spokeswoman on higher education in the House of Lords. She might

be asked to rummage in her files and pull out the notes she made on that illfated foray by Jim Callaghan's thinktank into examining British embassies abroad, and their hospitality and their laundry bills. The odds are, her notes would still have a point.

Which leads to the key question of Mr Cook's tenure: whether there is, still, too great a disparity between Britain's "objective" weight and its diplomatic standing and military power. Should a Labour Foreign Secretary, especially a New Labour one, bring foreign policy more into scale with Britain's economic standing while downsizing the public's expectations? We are still over-extended—which is, at least potentially, to be too puffed up. Does Britain need that seat on the United Nations Security Council?

The answer does indeed run along the lines Mr Cook suggests. Yes, our status arises partly from being historically entwined in a bundle of entangled alliances and allegiances (Nato, Commonwealth, former colonies, etc). We also derive some of our above-weight punch from, let's face it, being the cradle of the world's lingua franca, being culturally inclined to open trade, being a world centre for the movement of money. To that extent the old Thatcher rhetoric carried some vein of truth. But only a narrow vein. Really, everyone knew all along that the old days of being a free-ranger on the high diplomatic

seas are long, long gone, and that the lories grossly overstated our place in the world. Our true value to the Americans, to take the most obvious case in point, lies in becoming an engaged, active and potent force within Europe. If we were to step off the edge of Europe, American presidents and diplomats would soon be inclined to fly straight past Heathrow and on to Bonn and Paris without stopping. The most ethical and upstanding foreign policy in history won't change that.

Bright and beautiful

s it a sin to look good? Certainly not. Lif, as we report today, the clergy want to smarten up their style a little, dye their cassocks lime green, throw a bright orange sash over one shoulder, then fine - so long as they don't start trying to wiggle their hips all the way down the aisle, or slip on a see-through number for the sermon, how can anyone complain? The thing is though, as soon as vicars break out of black and white, the rest of us are all going grey: Gordon Brown, we learn, wants to wear a lounge suit to the Mansion House: no bow-tie and tux for him. Which is a great pity really. He ought at least to allow us one good laugh a year.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Unfair voting system worse than ever

Sir: There have already been two post-war elections (1951 and 1974) when the party receiving the largest total vote won fewer scats than its rival. An analysis of the 1997 results shows that this potential

The Labour lead nationally was 13 points. A uniform swing of 6.5 per cent from Labour to Conservative, giving an equality of total votes, would nevertheless award Labour 78 more seats than the Tories, and an overall majority of 15. For the Labour and Tory shares of seats to be equal would require a Tory lead of over 6 points, while they would need about a 10point lead to secure an overall

Sir: As a wholehearted supporter of proportional representation, I am heartened to see that the election of a Tory leader is not left to the vagaries of the first-past-thepost system. Not for them a leader

How nice it would be if they could see their way to extending this privilege to the whole of the United Kingdom (including the many now disenfranchised voters of their own party), by abandoning at last their support for the present outdated system, and ensuring that the present parliament is the last in which we are governed by a party elected by a minority. JOY KNOWLES

Sir: It is immoral and dangerous that some voters should be required either to vote with their conscience but ineffectively, or effectively but against their first preference, for the lesser evil of the

of winning. It is not enough that parties should have MPs roughly in proportion to the votes cast for them; it is essential too that those MPs should all have been chosen by the voters, not wholly (as in Israel and South Africa) or

partners) by the party machines. A system (STV) which gives is good enough for the Irish, why isn't STV good enough for us? SIMON GAZELEY

Sir: A possible reform of the voting system would be to combine the retention of first-past-the-post in

could be by the use of an electronic card hearing the member's name and party. The computer would store information on the number of members representing each party together with the national percentage of total votes cast for that party. Each MP's voting strength could thus be weighted. For instance, if a party wins 430 seats on 43 per cent of the national vote, the calculation (43/450)x100 = 10 gives each of its MPs 10 units of voting strength. Similarly, the MPs of a party with



distortion is now far greater.

Regardless of one's political allegiance (and I have always been anti-Tory) this distortion calls for some form of PR before the next ALAN PAVELIN Chislehurst, Kent

representing only a minority of the electors.

Leader Liberal Democrat Group, Boston Borough Council Boston. Lincolnshire

two candidates who have a chance

partially (as in most of our EU

power to the voters exists now. If it

the booths with computerised voting in the House of Commons. In the Commons the voting

170 MPs on 34 per cent of the

national vote would each have 20 votes in the House. if all members from one party voted together their voting strength would reflect the proportion of votes cast at the election. Voters would mark their ballot papers as at present and there would be no

"wasted" votes except those cast for a party which obtained no elected member. A C INGALL Dover, Kent

Official snoopers in cyberspace

Sir: The last government issued in March a consultation paper for proposed legislation on public use of encryption and related matters. We are at risk of allowing bad law to be passed. Time is short as the Government requested responses by the end of May.

The core of the proposals is that

for any two unrelated entities to exchange secure electronic communication would require the use of a Trusted Third Party (TTP). These TTPs would hold copies of everyone's encryption keys. At the request of the authorities the TTP would have to supply specified keys within one hour. It is as if all householders had to deposit a key to their house with, say, a local bank (and be charged for the privilege) and the police were allowed to request the keys and gain access to your house at short notice, without any reference to you or any independent legal representation.

How can we be sure that once the authorities have obtained a set of encryption keys these will be used solely for the detection of

crime? A law similar to that which governs search warrants would be suitable, so that on presentation of a suitable warrant one is obliged to provide, to the authorities, the plain text of any specified encrypted communications or be held in contempt of the courts.

The proposals have the potential to make secure communication between unrelated parties prohibitively expensive for the vast majority of the public. I welcome the introduction of regulated TTPs, but one does question why the Government feels it is essential to have access to all electronic communications when if I choose to send encrypted material through the traditional postal service no third party has right of access to the DAVID HAYLING

Deep Blue is not that clever

Ashford, Kent

Sir: While the victory of Deep Blue over Garry Kasparov demonstrates that the machine certainly does play a mean game of chess, the mplications for artificial intelligence are less clear.

Intelligence should be a measure of quality of thought, not speed of processing. A very simple program could be written to beat Kasparov provided it could run on a machine of sufficient (currently unobtainable) speed - just evaluate every possible move. Kasparov's brain is said to

process moves at two per second, The quality of his "program" -ie, intelligence - is such that it almost matches Deep Blue's program executed on a machine running at 200 million moves per second. Roughly speaking, that makes Kasparov 100 million times more "intelligent" than Deep Blue.

To make it a fair test of intelligence - not speed - slow down Deep Blue to two moves per second, run the same program and PETER EVANS

GCSE needs more essays

Sir. Judith Judd's article "Pupils should write more. Discuss" (12 May) raises an important issue for students wishing to study GCE Alevel history. Since the demise of the GCE O-level there has been a decline in the number of opportunities students have to engage in essay-writing. Until the advent of Key Stage 4 history, only one syllabus (NEAB Syllabus B. Modern World History) still retained the essay question as a feature of a terminal examination. However, through the medium of coursework, virtually all GCSE syllabuses allow students the opportunity for extended writing.

Although I agree with the general thrust of the argument put forward by Chris Husband of Warwick University and Christine Counsell of the Historical

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e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be

edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

reinforce and extend the importance of extended writing at GČSE history, it could have unfortunate side-effects. At present, history is perceived to be a relatively demanding GCSE option because of its extended writing demands. Since the launch of Key Stage 4 GCSE there has been a 17 per cent fall in the number of students taking GCSE history. Any further attempt to increase the demands of GCSE history will exacerbate this trend. Rather than increase the demands of GCSE history alone, surely the way forward would be to increase the opportunities for extended writing across a wider range of GCSE

Association about the need to

Altrincham, Greater Manchester The writer is chair of the history committee of the Northern Examination and Assessment Board

DERRICK MURPHY

Rights for all sentient beings ...

Sir: George Garner (letter, 6 May), fails to address the central issue concerning Cardinal Hume's comparison between abortion and slavery. Cardinal Hume condemns slavery on the grounds that it violates a basic human right, the right to liberty. Similarly, his critique of abortion is based upon the belief that it too involves the violation of a fundamental human right, the right to life. If one accepts that the foetus is a member of the

human species, whilst simultaneously believing that all such members have, at the very least, prima facie rights-claims, then the logic behind the comparison becomes obvious

What is perhaps not so obvious is that the logic of Cardinal Hume's position takes him much further: for once one accepts the case for foetal rights, one is then led to conclude that the variously cited criteria used as a basis for granting rights to the human species alone -its ability to think rationally, to use language, to transcend its environment and so on - must be disregarded, as they clearly can not be applied to the foctus. One can then see the possibility of a more inclusive conception of the moral community, one in which all sentient and potentially sentient creatures are regarded as being rights-bearers and as having fundamental interests which must, as a matter of justice, be accounted for. Such an attitude, once widely accepted, would truly herald the dawn of a more just and decent society.
PAUL REES

... except fish?

Heme Bay,

Sir: Tony Banks, the Minister for Sport, is strongly opposed to all blood sports. He should get the Nobel Prize for hypocrisy if he implements the Labour Party's manifesto promise, in its "Anglers' Charter", to encourage and heavily subsidise angling - by far the most widely practised of all blood sports. Wing Cdr TOM HUDSON
Buckingham

Lawless cyclists: drivers hit back

Sir: Hugh Hollinghurst (Letters, 12 May) perfectly illustrates the dangers that cyclists often pose to pedestrians and drivers. Can you imagine any motorist writing to you with a straight face and saying that travelling the wrong way down a one-way street, far from indicating a disregard for the law or anyone else on the road, "reflects the woeful lack of provision for motorists"? DAVID WILLIAMS. London N8

Sir: How helpful of Hugh Hollinghurst to explain that what I had simply dismissed as selfishness and ignorance is in fact a protest against the lack of provision for cyclists. May I explain in my turn that when I exceed the speed limit in my car, I am actually not showing disrespect for the law. I am only hurrying in order to get my car off the road, the sooner to leave it free for cyclists? PHILIP CRESSWELL Oxford

Sir. I hope our new Under-Secretary for Transport in London, Glenda Jackson, will put her bottom where her department's mouth is - "To promote the use of public transport and curb the car culture" ("Who's who in the Labour government, 8 May) - and use public transport to get to Westminster rather than driving to work. TERRY HORSNELL Cambridge

Give us back our **County Hall**

Sir: I think many of us with political and social views to the left of Joseph Chamberlain and Harold Macmillan would be heartened if London's County Hall - opposite, and complimentary to, Parliament – could be restored to its old function and used to recreate a capital city we can all once again be proud of ("At last, Londoners rule

themselves", 12 May). Whenever I see the building I feel both angry and despondent that it was taken away from Londoners for petty and mean reasons and left the city the only metropolitan area in the world without an overall government. What a wonderful boost to Londoners' morale if ways were found to use it once again for its proper purposes.
Dr JAMES ANDREWS Shepperton, Middlesex

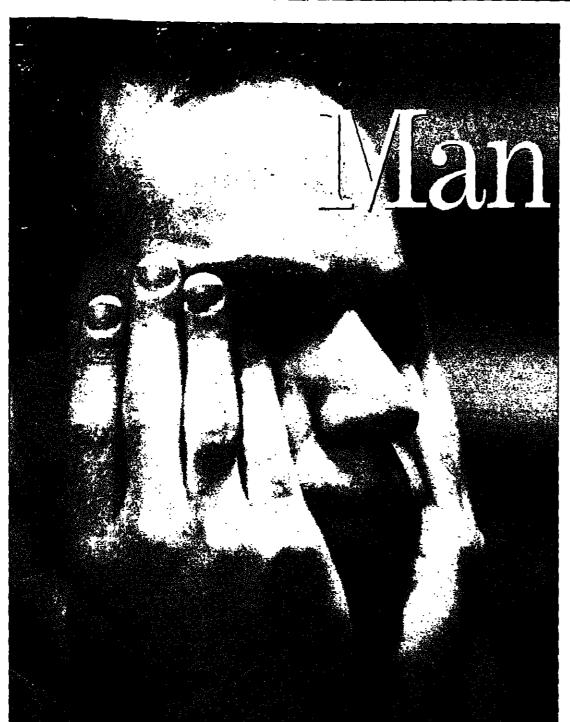
Voucher poser

Sir: So nursery vouchers are to be withdrawn in the autumn. As this government's stated priorities are education, education and education", is it safe to assume that to coincide with the withdrawal of vouchers a state nursery place will be made available for every fouryear-old so that children whose parents could not afford a private nursery place without vouchers will not be deprived? I only ask. HUW JENKINS Wokingham, Berkshire

Unscientific

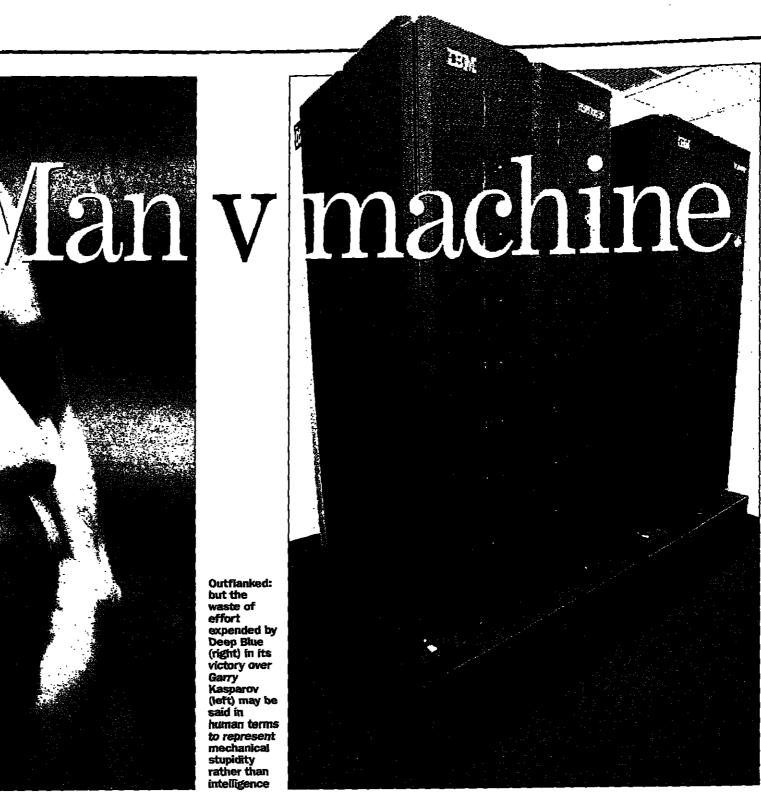
Sir: In your published account ("Who's who in the Labour Government," 8 May), there appears to be a serious omission; there is no Minister for Science. STANLEY ALDERSON Cambridge







rather than



Does the defeat of Kasparov by the Deep Blue computer mean that humans are no longer the only possessors of true intelligence? Michael Lockwood argues that whether a computer can genuinely think or not, silicon chips are not capable of consciousness

champion Garry Kasparov in a sixgame match by an IBM computer, Deep Blue, raises a host of questions about the nature of human intelligence and the possibility of simulating it mechanically. Some will insist that Deep Blue no more possesses genuine intelligence than does a pocket calculator; others will take Kasparov's defeat as evidence that we ourselves are nothing more than very complicated machines. So who is right?

Well, what is certainly true is that today's chess-playing computers do not play the game in remotely the same fashion as do their human adversaries. Deep Blue, it is said, can examine 200 million distinct states of the board in a single second, whereas a human chess-player can only examine, perhaps, two such states. But then most of the computer's labour would. from the perspective of an experienced human player, be if at all, only by highly selec-

he dramatic defeat so much wasted effort: a mat-of the world chess ter of pursuing the possible consequences of moves that the human player would rightly dismiss out of hand.

Pattern recognition plays a crucial role in human chessplaying, but is largely lacking in computer chess programes. Human players see positions on the board as relevantly similar to those they have encountered previously, but they would be hard put to say in what precise respect the current and the remembered positions resemble each other; this makes it difficult to program such knowledge into a computer. But what Deep Blue lacks

on the pattern recognition side, it more than makes up for in sheer speed. So it is with much of today's so-called artificial intelligence. It's not so much artificial intelligence, in our sense of the term, as incredibly rapid "artificial stupidity", where exhaustive and undiscriminating searches produce results we would achieve.

tive searches guided by insight. However, one shouldn't allow such considerations to make us too complacent about the claims of artificial intelligence. First, huge strides have already been made, and will doubtless continue to be made, in the field of pattern recognition, by so-called neural networks. A neural network (which normally exists only as a simulation on a conventional computer) can be

thought of as a vast array of very simple processors, analogous to neurons in the brain, connected up in such a way as to enable the system to learn various prescribed tasks (where performing the task means producing certain outputs in response to certain inputs). Information about the appropriateness of the system's

outputs is repeatedly fed back into the system, and causes the strength of the connections between the processors to be adjusted so as to improve performance. This technology is likely, in due course, to make it possible to devise chess programs that play in a far more think of our own cognitive activhuman fashion than Deep Blue, and which are capable, moreover, of learning from

Beyond that, there are some powerful theoretical arguments, deriving from the work of Alan Turing in the 1930s, which suggest that, in principle, the cognitive powers of the human mind could be matched by any suitably programmed conventional computer with sufficient memory and speed of operation. Modern computers (apart from their limited memory) are implementations of what is known as a universal

Turing machine is an imaginary device (incor-Laporating a reading, erasing and printing head which operates on a moving paper tape) which was invented by Turing in order to give a precise meaning to the concept of performing some cognitive task mechanically - multiplying two multi-digit numbers together would be an example of such a mechanical task.

Different Turing machines, as originally conceived, are designed to perform different tasks. But Turing showed that you could build a universal Turing machine which, given (on its tape) a description of any particular Turing machine, could then replicate the behaviour of that machine And this. in essence, is what a modern, general-purpose computer is designed to do: programming a modern computer is, in effect, a matter of instructing it to behave like a particular Turing machine. Now we shouldn't ordinarily

ity as purely mechanical. To be sure, we spend much of each day engaged in routine tasks which call for little or no creative thought (if, indeed, they

call for any thought at all). But we also do other things, such as composing a letter to a friend, which do seem to us to involve creativity. And, indeed, it is true of most classes of mathematical problems that there is no general automatic prescription for solving them. To that extent, doing mathematics, like playing chess, is itself, in general, a creative activity. But the fact that a person writing a letter to a friend, or a mathematician trying to prove some theorem. isn't operating according to conscious rules, doesn't exclude there being, at some level, rules at work governing

> a computer. Evidence, after all, suggests that all mental activity is a manifestation of the workings of the brain. And the brain, being a material object, is presumably subject to the self-same laws of physics that govern matter elsewhere. These laws themselves appear to be such that the behaviour of anything which obeyed them could in principle be simulated by a universal Turing machine: ie by a suitably

the relevant thought processes:

rules, moreover, which could in

principle be programmed into

programmed computer. Those who are impressed by this line of argument confidently expect that it will eventually be possible to program computers in such a way that they can pass themselves off as human beings in conversation. Turing himself proposed this, in

1950, as the acid test of whether a computer could think. He imagined a human being and a computer engaged in an imitation game" with a human interrogator, whose task was to try to tell, on the basis of their answers to his questions, which was the human being and which was the computer. The computer would be programmed to answer the questions in as human a manner as possible. while the actual human being

would try to persuade the inter-

rogator that he or she was the

real human being. Turing argued that a computer which was capable of fooling such interrogators at least 50 per cent of the time should be regarded, not only as tion of thought, but to be genuinely thinking. (We could imagine a similar set-up involving chess, with a human player simultaneously playing, via some remote link, a human player and a computer, and trying to guess which was which. Programming a computer to win a chess version of Turing's imitation game would clearly be a different matter from pro-

gramming it merely to beat the

human chess "interrogator" at

chess: it would have to play like

a human being, right down to making the sorts of mistakes a human would make.) This Turing test has been enthusiastically embraced, by many contemporary workers in the field of artificial intelligence, as a test not merely of whether a computer is genuinely thinking - whatever that

that he himself regarded his test in this way. The Turing test, thus inter-

preted, raises two questions which must be distinguished from each other. First, will it ever be possible to programme a computer to pass the Turing test? People who answer "yes" to this question are said to believe in "weak AI" ("AI" meaning artificial intelligence). Second, if a computer could be constructed and/or programmed to pass the Turing test on a reg-ular basis, at least as often as the average human being would, should it be credited with con-sciousness? People who believe in weak AI and answer "yes" to this second question are said to

et us suppose that weak Al is true, and that in the fullness of time experts in artificial intelligence succeed in programming computers (operating on essentially the same principles as current ones) reliably to pass the Turing test. Should we then conclude, in accordance with strong AI, that the computers are conscious, having "inner lives" comparable to our own? I think not.

a great mystery; nothing in our current understanding provides the smallest clue as to what it is, in physical terms, or why it should exist at all. But I take it that it is a biological phenomenon which evolved in response to various adaptive pressures: thus regarded, it is there only because it produces behaviour means - but of whether it is which conduces to the survival conscious. Indeed, some of Tur- of our genes. Consciousness was nature's solution to certain

Consciousness, as I see it, is

problems of adaptation. But what nature had to work with, 🌓 in solving this problem, is very different from what we have to

work with. Think of nature as under pressure to engender, in animals, dispositions to produce certain sorts of behaviour in response to various sorts of stimuli. From the fact that nature produced the desired relationship between sensory input and behavioural output by creating consciousness, it doesn't follow that we, with our technology, cannot produce this relationship without creating consciousness. Baldly put, perhaps nature wouldn't have needed to produce consciousness, if she had had etched silicon to work with, rather than organic carbon.

Finally, wouldn't it be better, on the whole, if strong AI were false, always assuming that we could be sure? "Intelligent" computers would be much more useful to us if we could confidently treat them as mechanical slaves, rather than as sensitive slaves, rather than as sensitive beings with rights that we were morally obliged to respect. But if we are one day faced with computers that can pass the Turing test, and we remain unsure whether they are conscious or not, one might plausibly argue that we should give them the benefit of the doubt!

Michael Lockwood is a lecturer in philosophy at Oxford University. He is the author of 'Mind. Brain and the Quantum' (Blackwell, 1989). William Hartston analyses the final two games between Kaspurov and Deep Blue in The Tabloid, page 14.

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Get your mazzard round these coglers

ing's remarks seem to imply

my dictionary shelf the other day called Wiltshire Words - A Glossary of Words used in the County of Wiltshire, which I couldn't remember having bought. This turned out to be for the simple reason that I hadn't bought it - a compliment slip fell out saying "With the compliments of the Wiltshire Life Society". I couldn't remember having ever received it either (or written to say "Thank you"), so with the energy born of guilt I started browsing through it. and I am glad I did so, because I think it may

change my life. This glossary is not a modern one. It is a reprint of one that appeared 100 years ago, produced by a team of gentlemanly philologists anxious to catch the form and flavour of Wiltshire dialect before it faded away, as most of it has. Many of the words, of course, have simply vanished with the things they describe - all the old agricultural tools, and the various ways of spreading out grass to dry, and animal words like "Martin" ("a calf of doubtful sex").

But even the obsolete words give a definite flavour of the way life was lived back

then ... "Coglers: The hooks, with cogged rackwork for lifting or lowering, by which pots and kettles were formerly hung over open fireplaces. Now replaced by 'Hanglers'

Coglers? Hanglers? I have never even heard these words before. On the same page of the glossary with "Coglers" is "Cocky warny", which is another name for leap-frog, and "Codlins-and-cream", which I dimly remember having come across in flower books. Yes, apparently codlins-and-cream is "The Great Hairy Willow Herb, so called from its smell when

crushed in the hand ... Ah, but what are codlins and what do they smell of? The Victorian authors assume that the reader will know, but I don't know. So I look it up in a modern dictionary and it is not there, though it does give "codlings" as "small apples" which may well be the same word ...

All obscure and far away. And yet on the opposite page it gives the word "Conkers". which it defines as "a boy's



Miles Kington

game, played with horse chestnuts strung on cord, the players taking it in turns to strike ... , and you think to yourself, "Well, everyone knows that, why bother to put it in?" And then you think to yourself, "No. hold on, if they put 'conkers' in a regional glossury it can't have been well-known at the time - it must have been a Wiltshire term which has become well-known since."

There are other words like that in the book. "Gloryhole", meaning a tiny space

which takes odds and ends. "Moreish", referring to food which is so delicious that you can't help wanting more. Now. I had always thought that "moreish" must be a new trendy coining, and that "glory-hole" must be common slang, but no, there they both are listed as Wiltshire rarities 100 years ago, little bits of Wiltshire that managed to escape from home

and make it big nationally. Well, if "moreish" and "glory-hole" can make it into the language, so can other words, and I have been looking through the ancient glossary for words which I reckon might profitably be brought back into modern English, I quite like the sound of the word "mazzard", which has

two quite different meanings. 1. A small kind of cherry.
"Merry" is the usual Wiltshire name, "Mazzard" being more Devon and Somerset. 2. The head, but only in

such threats as "I'll break thee mazzrd vor thee!" I also like the sound of the

old word for greater stitchwort. I am the first to admit that I do not talk about stitchwort much (though I can recognise it all right) but would much prefer to call it

"Mother Shimbles Snickneedles", as they used to. Not all ancient Wiltshire expressions were wordy. How about "Anan"? Or, in its shortened form, "Nan"? This, apparently, meant "What do you say?" and was used by a labourer who did not quite "comprehend his master's orders". This is an expression we still need today. When the management talks management talk, or John Birt delivers another opaque order to the BBC, I would like to see the workforce going around saying, "Anan?" The glossary notes that

"Nan" is still occasionally used in North Wiltshire but that it is almost obsolete. Yes, language comes and language goes. Even today, one year young men are calling each other "dude" and the next year nobody knows what it means. It says in the glossary that "Coop! coop!" is the usual call to cows to come in. Do people, a hundred years later, ever say this?

We apologise for Mr Kington's bucolic mood today. He will be back to normal tomorrow.

Where will Blair find the critics in this Parliament?

ow do we take the Tory leadership contest seri-ously? Kenneth Clarke, substantially the best qualified candidate for the post, is assumed, perhaps a shade too glibly, to be a certain also-ran.
The right-wing faction of the party (compare and contrast Gordon Brown/Iony Blair after the death of John Smith) is itself so split that it has not one but four candidates. Ann Widdecombe, a supporter of Peter Lilley, adds a pleasurable frisson of horror to this heady mix. After working closely with Michael Howard frends" (a classic formula for authorised but deniable knifework) that he is "dangerous stuff" and that there is "something of the night" about him.
And after all it's only days since
William Hague had quaffed
champagne – after sundown of course - with the nocturnal Howard and emerged his trusted running mate; it wasn't until day dawned and the potion wore off. that he came to his senses and decided to stand himself. On

Why do any of these antics matter? Because it isn't clear - on the showing so far - that the Tory party is anything like ready to cohere into an effective opposition. Or even that it will emerge from the leadership contest purged by the kind of great intellectual struggle which would give it the unity and sense of purpose it shed in government. That mat-ters because even the best of governments need good oppositions to make them better.

just what platform isn't yet fully

Sometimes this can work in surprising ways. In the late 1980s I can remember a very senior Home Office official complaining that Douglas Hurd's job in improving prison provision had been made much more difficult because the Shadow Home Secretary Roy Hattersley had failed to turn up to the Commons to protest about the use of Army camps for prisoners; and a Cabinet minister wishing aloud that Robin Cook was his shadow opponent because it would make it so much easier to extract funds from the Treasury for public housing. Less sur-prisingly, ministers are frightened by effective opponents into behaving better than they otherwise would. The Commons may have lost a lot of its shine in the last few years; but the fear of humiliation at the dispatch box by an opposition Private Notice Question in the right hands

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The dangers of an enfeebled opposition, of course, are magnified by the huge size of Tony Blair's majority. His freedom of action is almost limitless and vastly greater than that - say - of President Clinton, hemmed in by a hostile legislature. His chances of losing a single vote, let alone one of importance, during the entire Parliament are negligible. On devolution, a centrepiece of tomorrow's Queen's Speech, the Tories cannot even muster a single Scottish MP to be Donald Dewar's opposite number. The backwoods Tory peers can slow him down, as they may try to do over the ban on handguns. But in general Blair can do what he wants, in a way that the Liberal government could not after 1906. Clever, honourable men such as Tam Daivell and Denzil Davies are uncowable and may be at least as dangerous on, respectively. devolution and Europe to the executive as the traditional left. But most, if not all, full-scale backbench rebellions will be snuffed out by a



Donald **Macintyre**

The Tory party is not ready to cohere into an effective opposition, but every government needs good oppositions to make it

better

of the eager young Blairites and the party discipline for which their party has already become nistly famous.

Consider also the effect on the select committees which, however imperfect, remain the main instrument of parliamentary scrutiny. These will now have on them a majority of pro-government MPs as large, proportionally, as that in the Commons itself. So too will the standing committees that are supposed to subject bills to detailed examination but have lamentably failed to

do so over the past 18 years.
So there are real dangers, but also, perhaps, some solutions too.
The first is the historically large presence of 46 Liberal Democrats Ion occasions. rats. In a speech to his new MPs last week, Ashdown pledged "constructive" rather than "kneejerk" opposition, From Scotland, where they have the biggest single number of MPs, the party is already jostling with the Commons authorities to be treated as the official Opposition on Scottish business. And Liberal Democrats have the potential to harry the government not only on electoral reform - though they will if there is backsliding on the referendum pledge - but also on the issues that most concern many Labour MPs, including education, health and civil rights.

Another solution is parlia-mentary, and governmental, reform. Incorporation of the European Convention of Human Rights into British law suggests that Blair is ready for the judges to impose limits on his own power. But is he also prepared for an extension of select commit-

tees, the real use of backbenchers to help formulate government policy, and a culture of sen-sitivity to intelligent parliamentary criticism? This would go a long way to check the danger of the government making the kind of arrogant errors that will cost it dear at the polling booths next time. So would the use of standing committees for the purpose they were intended - partly by being given a pre-legislative role and the right to call expert witnesses – rather than as mere engines of party hackery. And if it's true, as it seems to be, that a Freedom of Information Bill was partly omitted from Wednesday's speech because David Clark missed a train and turned up late to the crucial Cabinet meeting, then it should return next year in the wake of the promised White Paper.

Radice, two MPs who have thought deeply about these subjects, from the ministerial ranks, is a disappointment. But the expected appointment of Wright as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Lord Irvine, who has a key Cabinet responsibility for constitutional reform, is a better omen. And Radice's power to oversee the Whitehall machine as chairman of the Public Services Committee, if he continues in that post, could

If safety valves of dissent are not built anew into the system, then the vital task of opposition will be left to other more volatile and less democratic theatres of conflict; the unions, the streets, perhaps above all the press. But Blair is singleminded about implementing what he sees as the popular will expressed on May 1, and the last six years don't exactly make a case for loose or weak government. There is a balance to be struck, and modernising Parliament would help

Ovid brings out the beast in Disney

by Richard D North

show, opens at the Dominion, Tottenham Court Road tonight It deserves to be a winner: Disney is, after all, tackling themes of sex and violence with wit and great tunes. But there is tough competition in the field of

species cross-over just now.

Not least, there is the revival of interest in Ovid's Metamorphoses - the classical round-up of every myth that ever saw intraspecific transmogrifications. The Economist reminded us last week that nearly 300 years ago John Dryden was the first poet laureate to have a go at translating this 2,000-year-old reworking of ancient sto-ries. Now Ted Hughes, a man in whom nature thrums, has triumphed with his gutsy tribute, Tales from Ovid.

In this company, one remembers that Disney is famous as Bowdler Inc. But its 1992 film of Beauty and the Beast - and the stage show is its clone - was deeply serious. It has a guys and dolls swing to it, but is in an arty tradition too. It is very similar to the movie made by Jean Cocteau in 1945, with its own adherence to Marie Leprince de Beaumont's La Belle et la Bête (1756), which itself popularised a version of the late 17th century. Before that the mists close on the headwaters of the story, though they are surely to be found in classical Greece and Psyche and Cupid, in Ovid's stories about the Mino-taur, and Jupiter's bovine disguise (Hughes has "Europa crying out at sea/Astride the bull that had deceived her").

For the theatre, there are some good new songs by Tim Rice, who has rather perversely gone out of his way to insist that this is only entertainment. It is true that overt toughness is usually missing from fairy stories, and even Ovid's myths have a sort of cartoon brusqueness about them. But Hughes brings real blood and passion to the page, and on stage, Disney was bound to make concrete what story-telling might leave elliptical. This year's Theatre Royal. Stratford East production of Beauty and the Beast was a traditional pantomime, but it still carried heavyweight baggage, and the more obviously muscular production at the Young Vic certainly did. All deliver what kids like: magic without nonsense.

While there is no intellectual property right in fairy stories (perhaps part of their charm to Disney), there is plenty of intellectual content. According to Jungian exegesis, fairy stories allow children to explore the worst of their fears and fantasies as well as their wildest dreams. That, at least, was the theme

of Bruno Bettelheim's fine The Uses of Enchantment, published in 1975. It begins with the



Myth meets musical: Julie-Alanah Brighten and Alasdair Harvey on stage in 'Beauty and the Beast'

The stage production treats sex and violence with wit and good tunes, and shows the fairy-tale's roots in classical myth

both extraordinary and commonplace. Their appeal to children could not be constant were it otherwise; they are not firing blanks.

Beauty and the Beast is, after all, about a girl who loves her father to the point that she is prepared to suffer imprisonment at the hands of the Beast on his behalf. She saves her father by transferring her affec-

To do this she must embrace the loveliness - presumably the sexuality - of the Beast. She has to grow up. So does the Beast, who has been incarcerated in a loathsome form by a fairy because he had not understood that hidden qualities matter more than loveliness in a woman. Disney's rather human and boyish Beast helps us to see that he is an ordinary man condenned to wearing the ugly bits of his untamed heart and mind on the outside. But his defor-

mity is only rare in being visible. Even in the Disney production, the Beast inflicts violence on Beauty, and it is a pivotal moment because she flees from him and he is shocked into

premise that fairy stories are redeeming himself. More than would have been the case traditionally, the Beast has to exercise anger management: that's his 20th-century problem. The tale hints at man as

voyeur the Beast looks on at his prisoner Belle, able to see all that is going on in his castle tragically he is not tender out dreadful depths", but he enough to be able to commu-

He and Belle will be delivering an essay on aesthetics to their young audiences. The philosophical message of the Beast is that only things which are capable of ugliness can be beautiful. The Enlightenment had suggested that objects and ideas which inspired powerful nervous reactions were ugly and brutish, unless they were found in the classics - Ovid and the like - and kept there. But with Burke's 1757 essay

The Sublime and the Beautiful, we have the precursor of the Romantic movement of the late 18th century, which proclaimed that human and natural wildness constituted the "sublime". Sublimity is allied to

beautiful, but it is always more more than merely pretty. The Beast may be violent, but he suffers for it and at least he isn't merely mannered,

Herbert Read's account of Beauty and the Beast in a 1962 essay quotes Nietzsche, "Greek through using a magic mirror as his CCTV. He can see Belle, but no truly beautiful surfaces withmourns the excesses that flow "Again and again modern artists have disowned the concept of the beautiful." Don't we has time before curtain up just know it.

Yet in the Vollard Suite, Picasso created in the Thirties a great and lovely modern work by examining at length all the themes that are to be found in Beauty and the Beast, and many of those of Ovid. Echoing drawings by Goya and especially

Rembrandt, he sketched and resketched images of male roughness and worse as it revelled in, was bewildered at, or redeemed by female tenderness and loveliness. It might depict the male artist gazing longingly at the sleeping model before idealising her in a statue; a Minotaur aching to slough off his hairy carapace. Or just a lover gazing at his mistress (a theme taken up by Stanley Spencer among many others).

After seeing Beauty and the Beast, audiences might be advised that further reading should include the Thames and Hudson "World of Art" series, including its volumes Picasso, Romanticism and Art, and Sexuality in Western Art. The Beast would almost certainly have ney has him donating to Belle in his attempts to woo her. He tonight to nip out and add .he new Hughes/Ovid volume.

In fact, if Ovid could timewarp himself into the here and now, he would probably enjoy a seat in the stalls.

Tales from Ovid' by Ted Hughes (Faber, £7.99).

The man who abolished madness



Andreas Whittam Smith

R D Laing regarded psychiatry as akin to penology, designed mainly to keep mad people out of society's way

ubversive yet compassionate, enduring yet marginal. This is how the work of a key figure in the 1960s, a leader of the counter-culture, the Scottish psychotherapist R D Laing, was characterised at a meeting to reassess him which took place at the Mahatma Gandhi Hall in central London on Sunday. It was a gathering of 100 or so admirers, of people who want to carry on developing his insights.

Laing's work and writing started from the assumption that schizophrenia is not a disease with symptoms in any conventional sense. No malfunctioning of the brain has yet been detected that explains mental illness. Thomas Szasz, a contemporary of Laing, said that minds could be "sick" only in the sense that jokes were "sick" or economies are

In The Divided Self, Laing's most influential book, he wrote that it was possible to know just about everything that could be known about schizophrenia without being able to understand one

single schizophrenic.

It is from this starting point that flowed both Laing's subversive intent and compassionate response. He was one of the founders of the anti-psychiatry movement which persists to this day. In this view, psychiatry is seen as akin to penology; it is primarily concerned with keeping mad people out of society's way rather than with improving their condition. Its history is a history of constraint.

We even get a glimpse of this in Boswell's life of Johnson. The great man was asked to comment on the unfortunate poet Christopher Smart, who was "confined in a mad-house". Burney had asked Johnson how does "poor Smart do?". He replied: "I do not think he ought to be shut up. His infirmities were

pray with Kit Smart as anyone else. Another charge was, that he did not love clean linen; and I have no passion for it." One hundred years later new state

institutions were set up, with locked wards, padded cells and strait-jackets. Instead of prisons, prisoners and warders, there were mental hospitals, patients and nurses. Later, from the 1930s to the 1950s (when Laing was working in a Scottish mental hospital), came the use of insulin-induced comas, lobotomy and electroshocks. Since then constraint has largely been achieved through the agency of tranquillising drugs. For Laing, the state system which he had seen from inside was worse than useless, because its methods could have perverse results. At the heart of his analysis was the

notion of a person so utterly insecure that in the ordinary circumstances of living, he or she may feel more unreal than real more dead than alive, precariously differentiated from the rest of the world, so that his or her identity was always in question. Such people may feel more insubstantial than substantial, and they may feel their selves as partially divorced from their bodies.

In these circumstances, everyday life constitutes a continual and deadly threat. Their incomprehensible talk, their weird behaviour, their catatonic states are all to be seen as defensive strategies, designed to protect their poor tortured souls from engulfment, implosion or depersonalisation.

Schizophrenics could be understood and helped, argued Laing, only with compassion and with therapy rather than medical intervention. At the meeting on Sunday, all the talk was of the need to be with people before you could help them, to stand by attentively, not noxious to society. He insisted on of developing an "attuned" underpeople praying with him; and I'd as lief standing of the schizophrenic's situation, piness (called "madness") of others, cated drugs.



of cultivating an ability "to be with". What patients needed, it was said, was an experience, not an explanation such as psychoanalysis offers. Somebody who meral enterprise of understanding what it is to be human.

It follows that the appropriate setting for such work is a therapeutic community rather than a hospital. For five years in the 1960s, Laing ran such a place, Kingsley Hall in the East End of London, where it became a notorious feature of the counter-culture of the decade. It was chaotic and anarchic and a nuisance to its neighbours.

Clancy Sigal, in his obituary of Laing, wrote that "we were not looking for cures, because there was no madness ... if we stopped thinking in terms of madmen and madwomen and started par-

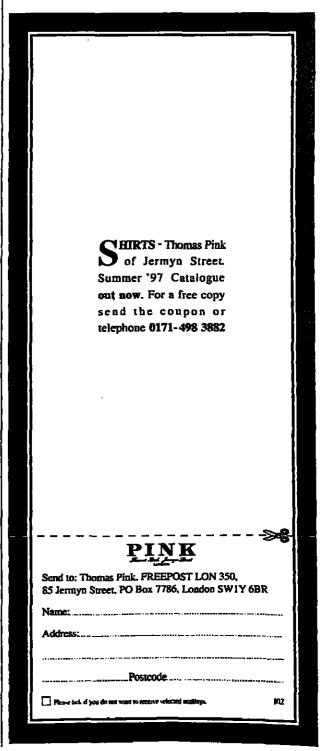
in our right minds called it more than that - that people in trouble might be helped." Along with criticisms of conventional

psychiatry, the Kingsley Hall initiative has also been developed and refined. In this country a number of small communities have been founded, often called "households" to imply the creation of a sort of family structure. The more ordinary these refuges appear, the more tranquillity they impart. In the United States, ambitious projects have been attempted. On Sunday, Loren Mosher gave an account of two houses he estab-lished in California, which operated for 12 years until their funding eventually

dried up. He set out to "de-hospitalise" madness, de-medicalise madness (ie, it is not a disease), to de-professionalise it with the use of staff without mental health qualifications whose first duty was "to be with patients", and to de-drug it. A study has subsequently shown that the outcomes were as good or better than those for patients treated in hospitals. had worked with Laing said that his patients found themselves as part of a much larger undertaking in Washing-Mr Mosher is having similar success with ton DC.

None the less, these initiatives and the beliefs which underpin them remain marginal. Thirty years have passed since such notions were first discussed; Laing was their leading exponent. Neither side has been able, once and for all, to vanquish the other in argument, because neither can show convincing proof of its

assertions. Laing's followers argue that therapeutic communities are cheaper to run than state facilities, but the argument does not convince and the medical establishment continues to view schizophrenia as a disease which can be ameliorated, if not cured, with sophisti-



business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER GrandMet and Guinness in £20.6bn deal

Wave of consolidation to follow giant merger

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Guinness and Grand Metropolitan heralded a new wave of consolidation in the drinks industry yesterday when they announced a £21bn merger that will create the world's largest

The new company, GMG Brands, will be the world leader in Scotch, vodka and gin with a list of brands that includes Grand Met's Smirnoff vodka, I&B whisky, and Bailey's as well as the Guinness-owned Johnnie Walker and Gordon's gin.

The company said there were no plans to spin off or demerge the non-spirits interests which include Guinness Brewing Worldwide, producer of the famous stout, or GrandMet's Pillsbury and Burger King interests.
The deal, the largest pure

merger in UK corporate history, is expected to provoke a wave of consolidation in the spirits industry which has been plagued by over-capacity, declining sales and a tough pric-ing environment. Ron Littleboy at Nomura Securities said: "This is the big bang for the spirits industry. All the others will be worried sick." He said the forming of GMG Brands would put pressure on other com-

petitors, particularly Allied Domecq, the Teacher's and Ballantine's whisky group which has seen its market share come under pressure. It will also place pressure on smaller spirits "It presents a tremendously

difficult problem for Allied," said Philip Hawkins, analyst at Merrill Lynch. "It will have to look for strategic partners." Allied Domecq, which reports results today, declined to comment. However, analysts suggested Allied may now seek a link with Seagram, the Canadian group which has several leading brands that include Chivas Regal and Mumm's champagne. Other possibilities mentioned included a bid from American

it was possible that Seagram may move to mount a counter takeover bid for Guinness.

fensive against the proposed merger saying it would raise "se-rious anti-trust issues, in the US, Europe and elsewhere". Robert Matschullat, the company's vice chairman and chief financial officer said: "The industry is suffering from over-capacity but it is hard for us to imagine a more anti-competitive way of dealing with it that with this

He said the link-up would give GMG Brands more than half of the global scotch business and 75 per cent of the standard scotch market in the US. "I don't know if they think the regulatory authorities are snoozing but if this deal goes through I believe it will only be after a huge amount of scrutiny and only with major divestitures."

He added that Seagram was considering a major

← This is the big buy for the spirits industry. All the others will be worried sick by it 9— Ron Littleboy of Nomura Securities

takeover as it would only face the same regulatory difficulties: We do not feel compelled to do anything

Jamie Wilson, finance director of Highland Distilleries which owns the Famous Grouse and Highland Park brands of Scotch said: "The question of consolidation is one that everyone will now be asking themselves, but I am reserving my judgement.

The deal was welcomed in the Brands or Brown Forman, an- City where shares in both com-They further suggested that closed 86 higher at 602.5p while its interim results yesterday Grand Met shares finished 76.5p up at 591.5p.

The move surprised many an- March to £471m. Seagram launched a strong of- alysts as only last year Guinness

dismissed stock market rumours that it was set to launch a takeover of GrandMet. Tony Greener, Guinness chairman, who will be joint chairman of the merged group with Grand Met's chairman, George Bull, said he had rejected that option as it would have destroyed shareholder value.

However, it was Mr Bull who initiated the merger discussions when he invited Mr Greener for dinner at a central London hotel just a month ago. Mr Bull described the deal as a "win-win situation" and said it was born of commercial logic and personal friendship.
Mr Greener said: "This

marks an important point in history when it is possible to two big companies to come together without destroying shareholder value for one of the parties."

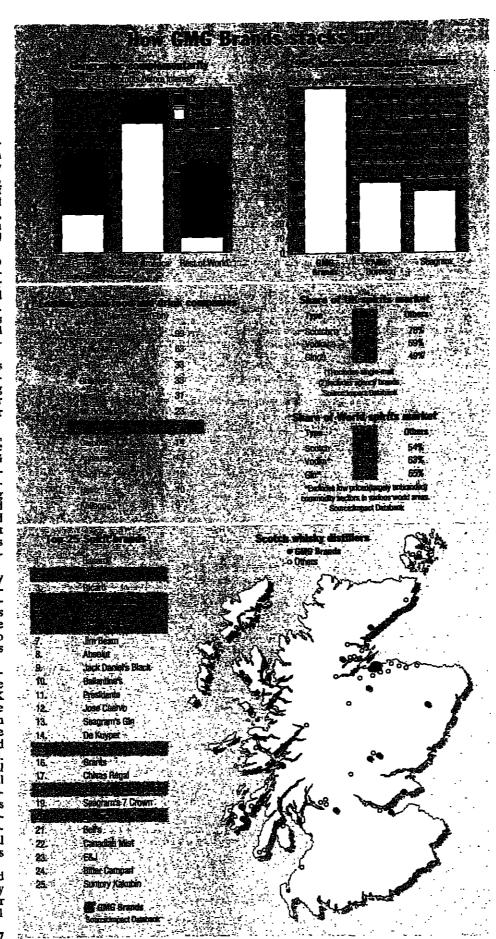
Grand Met's chief executive, John McGrath, who will be chief executive of GMG Brands, said the deal was logical in the face of spirits indus-try which was facing declining demand, over-capacity and strong retail customers. He said the two groups were a perfect fit, with few over-lapping brands and complementary geographic strengths.

The deal was opposed by Bernard Arnault of Luis Vuitton Müet Hennessy, the luxury goods group which holds 14.2 per cent of Guinness. He voted against it preferring to spin-off the non-spirits interests into a separate company.

The deal still requires regulatory approval and its size means it will by-pass the UK competition authorities and be ruled upon by the European Commission's merger task force instead. The management said they were confident of approval.

Under the terms of the deal Grand Met shareholders will hold 52.7 per cent of the enlarged group with Guinness shareholders holding the remaining 47.3 per cent. Shareholders will receive a special capital repayment of not less than 60p per share.

showing profit up just 3.5 per cent in the six months to 31



Greener denies boardroom row with Arnault

Tony Greener, chairman of Guinness, was yesterday attempting to play down an apparent boardroom rift with Bernard Amault, the head of the French LVMH luxury goods group. Mr Arnanit, who until recently controlled more than a fifth of Guinness's shares, voted against the proposed merger with GrandMet at last Friday's board meeting, throwing his future at the company into doubt.

"Let me assure you that there has not been any sort of row be-tween ourselves and LVMH," Mr Greener said. "We have had a number of very commercial, professional and sensible discussions about this. Discussions between us were not at all acrimonious but it is not unknown for the French and British to disagree."

He denied the relationship with LVMH, which after selling one-third of its stake in January retains a 14.2 per cent shareholding in Guinness, was effec-tively dead. "Absolutely not." We have a lot of mutual interests and benefits from our joint venture," Mr Greener said. After the merger Mr Ar-

nault's stake in the combined Guinness/GrandMet group will fall again to between 6 and 7 per cent and analysts in Paris were speculating yesterday that he would soon move to sell his remaining holding. Mr Arnault was not in London yesterday and it is not yet known if he will attend Guinness's annual meetng on Thursday.

There has been increasing peculation since last summer that Mr Arnault is growing more and more dissatisfied with the return on his investment in Guinness, whose shares have drifted throughout most of the 1990s. The value of his stake had also been hit until recently by the fall in the value of the pound against the French franc.

There had been no acrimony, Mr Greener said, and workman- Hennessy drinks arm. LVMH's like discussions would carry on stake in Guinness fell to 21 per over the coming weeks. Mr Ar- cent where it remained until last nault had been told of the plans January's partial sale.

at the same time as other Guinness board members about two weeks ago, a fortnight after Mr Greener and GrandMet's chairman, George Bull, agreed to explore a merger.

Mr Arnault wrote to the heads of the British groups to propose combining the three spirits and wines businesses of GrandMet, Guinness and Moet Hennessy as an independent listed group. Asked if Mr Arnault would be offered a place on the board of the merged company, Mr Greener said:
"That's not for me to say."

Guinness and LVMH have had a close relationship since 1988 when the two companies took a 12 per cent cross-share-

between us were not at all acrimonious but it is not unknown for the French and British to disagree 🤊

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holding in each other as a bulwark against hostile bids for either party and as a prelude to creating a worldwide distribution network for their products. After a string of successful ven-

tures, the two increased their shareholdings to 24 per cent. The cross-shareholdings were restructured in 1994 when Guinness came under fire for getting too involved with a diversified luxury products group that was looking to expand in television and fashion. Guinness swapped its stake in LVMH for a 34 per cent holding in its Moet

A marriage that was just waiting to happen

Whatever the competition authorities and the consumer new group's balance sheet that might make of the proposed merger of Guinness and hand £2.4bn of surplus capital GrandMet, it is hard to fault the straight back to shareholders via deal in financial or commercial a 60p payout, which for tax reaterms. In spirits, which is what this marriage is really about, the two companies' geographical cash. and product spreads mean this was a combination just waiting to happen.

It marks a first step in the consolidation the industry has needed for years to solve the deep-seated problems of price increases below inflation in its mature Western markets, destocking and heavy price discounting after the late 1980s party collapsed into the hang-over of the early 1990s recession.

GMG Brands, as the new monolith is to be called, will be Britain's eighth biggest com-pany and the world's seventh largest food and drink group. with a market value in excess of £20bn. Valued at just less than McDonald's, it will dwarf other global players like Heinz and Kellogg. It will have 18 of the world's top 100 spirits brands, combined sales of almost £13bn, profit before interest and tax of £2.2bn and free cash flow of over £900m.

one of its first moves will be to sons will be in the form of a new

Even after that act of largesse, its earnings will cover interest payments on its debts more than five times.

Although a genuine merger between the two companies, the deal is to be structured as an alishare takeover of GrandMet by Guinness, which will change its name to GMG Brands before swapping one of its own shares for each GrandMet share. As a result of their company's slightly greater size, GrandMet shareholders will end up owning 53

per cent of the enlarged group. The deal represents a combination of some of the best known food and drinks brands in the world. More than half its profits will come from its spir-its arm, a combination of Guin-ness's United Distillers (UD) and GrandMet's International Distillers and Vintners (IDV). Its enlarged spirits portfolio will combine Johnnie Walker

whisky and Gordon's gin from

Need's else Chance (CA) 1996/97 High 1996/97 Law York (CA)

Such is the strength of the UD with IDV's J&B scotch, million and the Seagram's 41 Gilbey's gin and Bailey's lioueur.

Sales of its spirits brands, which also include Jose Cuervo tequila, Hennessy cognac and Malibu, will leave its main competitors, Allied Domecq and

Seagrams, standing.
The combined UDV will sell more than 100 million cases of spirit, compared with Allied's 47



Tony Greener, chairman of Guinness Photograph: Ben Schott

INTEREST RATES

million. GMG's other interests include GrandMet's Pillsbury food manufacturing business, Haagen Dazs ice-cream, and Guinness's 34 per cent investment in the Moet-Hennessy champagne to cognac group. It takes in the original Irish stout brewing opera-

tion and Burger King. The commercial appeal of

Grand alliance: (from left) George Bull chairman of GrandMet, the group's chief executive John McGrath, and

the proposed deal hinges on the ability of the new spirits business to push a greatly enlarged portfolio of brands through an existing distribution network around the world. GrandMet has next to no exposure to the developing markets of the Far East and Latin America, so adding its products to Guinness's existing offering will in-crease sales in those regions

rapidly at little extra cost. Guinness currently makes around 44 per cent of its spirits profits in developing markets, while GrandMet's exposure is less than 10 per cent. The combined group will make about a quarter of profits from those fast-growth regions.

In the mature markets of North America, where Grand-Met is strong, and Europe, combining the two operations will increase GMG's buying power in a still highly fragmented market and belp it force through price rises after years of flat demand and low inflation keeping a lid on the cost of spirits.

Less clear cut are the benefits of holding on to the nonspirits operations, even if John McGrath, chief executive-designate, is understood to believe

that by the end of the decade Burger King will be the fastest growing part of the group and provider, thanks to its franchise system, of a sizeable fillip to the group's return on capital.

The real attractions of the proposed deal are financial. Structured as a marriage of equals, the merger avoids the enormous squandering of value that a hostile bidder's shareholders would have to face by eliminating the need to pay a premium for control. With cost savings of just £175m pencilled in over three years, it is little wonder that Guinness balked at paying a premium of maybe £4bn over GrandMet's market

value of £11bn. With a return on capital of only 8 per cent compared to Guinness's 12 per cent, GrandMet gets arguably the better end of the deal from that perspective.

Putting the two groups together should mean an aggre-gate return in excess of the weighted cost of their capital of around 10.5 per cent, a benchmark the industry has struggled to match through the long

Tom Stevenson

Labour's first big test on competition

Michael Harrison

Labour's gut instinct may well be to haul the proposed GrandMet-Guinness merger back from Brussels and insist on the deal being vetted here, making it the first big test case of the Government's competition policy.

How easy that would prove in practice is less clear. In terms of its size and the proportion of turnover generated in the UK as opposed to Europe and elsewhere, the deal falls squarely un-der the remit of the European Commission's mergers task force. Mergers are referred automatically to Brussels if the combined turnover of the parties exceeds 5bn ecu (£3.5bn), each of them has EU sales of at least 250m ecu and not more than two-thirds of sales are within one member state.

There is a clause in the legislation, however, which allows a member state to ask Brussels for jurisdiction to be handed back to national competition authorities if it can demonstrate that a merger would pose competi-tion problems in a distinct market. This clause was successfully used to permit the Office of Fair Trading and the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to vet the rival bids by Gehe and Unichem for Lloyds' Chemists. Yesterday Guinness and GrandMet both said they were confident that there was no case for the merger being examined by the UK authorities as opposed

to those in Brussels. There were similar indications coming from the OFT Less that 10 per cent of GMG's combined sales are within the UK. Even so, its dominance of some distinct markets would be significant. The combined group would account for 51 per cent of all the gin sold in the UK, 41 per cent of all the vodka and 22 per cent of all the Scotch whisky consumed. Given

the wider employment considerations and the even bigger concentration in manufacturing that would stem from the merger, Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, could make a strong case for wresting

authority back to London. How would Labour handle such a merger? The ink is not yet dry on its competition policy. Nigel Griffiths, the minister responsible for competition, has only just been handed his portfolio and Lord Borrie, the former Director-general of Fair Trading, who is leading a panel of three visemen advising Labour on how its competition policy should be formulated, has yet to report. However, Mrs Beckett had a

reputation, in opposition at least,

for being something of a hawk on mergers policy. Mr Griffiths, her junior minister, also had a penchant for backing referrals and then aksing questions later. At Mrs Beckett's behest, Labour had intended to reverse the burden of proof in hostile takeovers so that the bidder would be required to demonstrate that a merger was in the public interest. The onus now is on the competition authorities to prove that a merger would be against the public interest. Although this commitment was ommitted from Labour's business manifesto in favour of a promise that Lord Borrie would review" the public interest test. there seems little doubt that the climate for hostile bids is going to become more difficult.

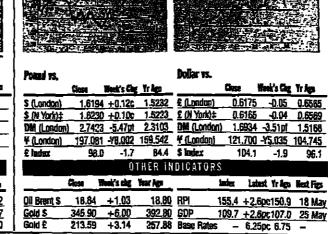
It is likely to be several weeks before GMG discovers where its fate is to be decided. If it is London, then it should get some clue as to the kind of treatment it can expect from Mrs Beckett's rulings on the three big merger deals piled up in her in-tray awaiting clearance: Bass-Carlsberg Tetley; P&O-Stena; and British Airways-American Airlines.

BECAUSE DIRECT

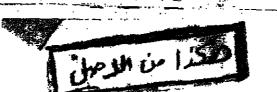
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STOCK MARKETS

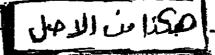
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CURRENCIES



OF THE VENE





'This is plainly a great deal for the City and for investors, as

yesterday's sharp rise in the share price of both companies bears testimony, but is it also good for UK pic?"

Merger faces uphill struggle with regulators

ess than two weeks into Labour's "new dawn", and already the City is presenting the Party's radical young thinkers with an uncomfortable policy dilemma. That as-sumes, of course, that Brussels allows the new Government some say over Guinness's proposed merger with Grand Metropolitan, and doesn't exercise its right to keep all the action for itself. Legally, this is a merger which falls under the jurisdiction of the European Commission. But since the main competition issues occur in the UK, the bulk of the job losses will be in Britain, and the two companies involved are both British, even Brussels would be hard pressed to ignore British sensitivities on this mat-

ter entirely.
This is plainly a great deal for the City and for investors, as yesterday's sharp rise in the share price of both companies bears testimony, but is it also good for UK plc? That's a much tougher question, which is not answered by the bald insistence of Tony Greener and George Bull that it is, and that as a consequence there are no regulatory issues to address. The basic rationale for this merger is that old chestnut, big is beautiful - that the two companies combined will be a much more effective global force than sep-

To be fair, there may be something in this. The two companies are largely complementary on the liquor side, in both brands and geographically. Combine the two brand portfolios and feed them through the two

uplift in sales (should being the operative word here). Unfortunately, this argument rather ignores the rest of Grand Met and Guinness. There is nothing that links Pillsbury Foods, Burger King and Guinness Brewing with this commendable rationale, nor does getting as big as the Nestles and Pepsi Cos of this world give GMG Brands anywhere near the same product and cultural cohesion as those two companies

From this perspective, Bernard Arnault's alternative approach - which would see IDV, United Distillers, and Moet Hennessy merge under the splendidly Gallic capital structure of three separate shareholding companies - is industrially the rather bet-ter solution. The trouble is that Grand Met would never have contemplated demerging IDV, nor would Guinness be prepared to separate its spirits interests from its brew-

ng. But let's leave that for the moment. Guinness is also right to point out that the world market in spirits is a fragmented one when compared with some other leading consumer products like detergents and soft drinks. Even combined, these two companies would have no more than 10 per cent of the "accessible" world market in spirits. If you take the broader definition of the world spirits market, taking into account unbranded local hooches, then it comes down to less than 5 per cent.

different distribution and marketing net-works, and there should be a significant get a quite different picture. The two com-doing its job properly. panies combined would have 46 per cent of the world market for scotch whisky, 37 per cent for Vodka and 35 per cent for gin. The point is that Britain is already hugely successful in selling these products in export markets. Is it going to be made any more successful by allowing its biggest two play-ers to merge? Take the US, where Guinness and Grand Met have the top three selling scotches between them. Once the spur of competition is removed, it seems more likely they will sell less, though at a higher price,

not more. The situation isn't much better in the UK, where the combined market share of these companies in scotch, gin and vodka is equally alarming. So although Messrs Greener and Bull may be right about all this, regulators are going to take quite a lot of convincing. Even in its new form, Labour is going to be more sceptical still.

Today brings the first Inflation Report to L be published since Gordon Brown made the Bank of England independent. As that was only last week, the report will look much the same as it always has. But independence has changed its purpose. In the past it has assumed that interest rates are kept at the existing level and predicted the consequences for the underlying inflation rate. In future, it will have to predict that inflation is going to be on target, or the new Mone-

doing its job properly.

A document that always has to predict outarget inflation will turn into more of an Interest Rate Report, reflecting the committee's analysis of the state of the economy and likely moves in the cost of borrowing during the next quarter. It will become an important means for the Bank to persuade public opinion of the merits of its case.

Today's report must have involved some tricky drafting manoeuvres. In February the Bank issued a stiff warning about inflation prospects, backing up its repeated advice to Kenneth Clarke to raise rates. Since then we have had three months' worth of strong economic data and, last week, a quarter point rise in base rates. It will be hard to argue that the small and belated move is enough to have put inflation right back on

Logically, the Bank therefore ought to say that another rise in interest rates is needed, and now that it is operationally independent, it would be free to announce such a move this morning if it wanted. Don't hold your breath though; the signs are that the Bank will wait and see what the Budget

Defence stocks took one look at Robin Cook's Mission Statement and his pledge to put human rights at the heart of British foreign policy and yawned. But is this

The new Foreign Secretary intends to push for international regulation of the arms trade so that no weapons get into the hands of those intent on "external aggression or internal repression". Since intent is partly in the eye of the beholder that could open up quite a big field of candidates, start-

ing with Indonesia and its orders for British Aerospace Hawk "trainer aircraft" This is bold stuff given that Britain is one of the world's four biggest arms exporters. sports a defence industry with a powerful and well-oiled lobbying machine and a fac-tory in most marginal constituencies.

The downside is that Mr Cook, for now

at least, may be a lone voice in his ethical crusade. The argument against taking a unilateral stance on arms sales has always been the one that runs "If we don't sell them the stuff then someone else will." Mr Cook has an answer to this too. He proposes a European code of conduct so that once one member state refuses an export licence on ethical grounds another cannot sneak into its place. Bad news for the French.

As things stand, however, Mr Cook's pledges largely amount to fine words and little more. They may need to be brought into sharper focus by a little practical appli-cation. Saudi Arabia does not possess the world's most glittering human rights record and it also happens to be Britain's biggest arms customer. But is Mr Cook brave enough to tinker with the £20bn Al

SIB wants guarantees for pension victims

Nic Cicutti Personal Finance Editor

The Securities and Investments Board, the City's senior watchdog, is poised to embrace a new scheme aimed at "guaranteeing" redress to victims of the pensions mis-selling scandal. SIB's move comes as another regulator's confidential report, seen by The Independent, shows insurers are still failing to compensate those worst affected.

the Personal Investment Authority, the companies' frontline regulator, shows some of the UK's biggest insurers, including TSB Life, Royal Life, some progress. Pearl, Sun Alliance, Friends Provident, London & Manchester and Britannic, have yet to settle as little as 10 per cent of their most urgent cases.

staked its credibility on resolvcompensation had been paid at

ness to by-pass regulators by summoning the worst-offending insurance firms to a meeting tomorrow. Company chiefs will be told by Mrs Liddell that unless they speed up the review process they may face tough sanctions, including fines, over their failure to comply.

The latest PIA document includes sets of tables, revealing progress to date. One of the tables, dated 3 April, is believed to show the picture in the The leaked document from months prior to that date. Newer figures indicate that some companies, most notably Equitable Life, Norwich Union and Royal London, have made It is believed that the inabil-

ity of most firms to proceed with the review at speed will lead Sir Andrew Large, outgoing chairman at SIB, to publicly back lat-The leaked report will be a er today redress "guarantees" as further blow to the PIA, which a view of resolving the matter. The "guarantee" system,

ing the problem after a report championed by Legal & Genlast year revealed almost no eral, would promise those who Helen Liddell, Treasury Min- efit they would otherwise have tem to its policyholders could

Lead	ling partic	dipants update -	- 3 April 199	37
Name	Priority Cases	Assessments completed	Redress offered	% of total priority cases completed up to March 97
Prudential	50719	732	711	n/a
Co-operative Insurance	38201	2409	182	14.1
Pearl Assurance	36919	2427	1301	8.7
TSB Life	25873	46	22	5.5
Legal & General	20720	1696	1081	n/a
Guardian Pensions Mgmt	7251	387	222	r/a
Sun Life of Canada	15378	576	576	n/a
Allied Dunbar	11962	2176	98	19.3
Abbey Life	13345	426	19	24.0
Britannic Assurance	13365	21	9	2.7
Barclays Life	12880	2015	1286	28.4
Lincoln Assurance	10600	314	112	n/a
NatWest	9409	558	249	26.6
Equitable Life	10289	3622	100	69.3
Royal London	9358	957	179	63.1
Gan Life & Pensions	6898	199	40	n.a
Sun Alliance	8033	368	219	9.1
Hogg Robinson	8552	1	1	n.a
Windsor Life	7869	89	89	1.3
Sedgwick Noble Lowndes	7272	40	14	n.a
Lloyds Bank	4757	433	192	32.8
London & Manchester	6157	36	29	1.4
United Friendly	6330	299	4	12.0
Norwich Union	5263	267	125	40.2
Royal Life	4919	884	48	7.5
Colonial Mutual	5291	22	21	n/a

Slow progress in righting the pension wrongs

could not rejoin their old

Commercial Union

PIA executives have rejected this option, claiming it is unworkable. However, SIB has never hidden its sympathy for the proposal, which Sir Andrew were mis-sold a pension that the insurer would match every benefit they would otherwise have

volved in the compensation process is outlined in the PIA document, which details the experience of one company, Britannic, in the review process.

512

Britannic, a Birminghamletters from Britannic policy- what we have achieved to date."

The extent of the shambles in- holders were not being acknowledged, reminders to take part in the review were not being sent out and people were being excluded from the review for no proper reason.

Brian Shaw, chief executive at Britannic, said: "We have in-creased our commitment in the past months and are in line with other providers in terms of

nomic affairs committee, said

price competition was keen.
"We haven't seen any sign of

inflation coming through in the shops," he said.

interest rate increases would

hinge on consumers' willing-

ness to spend their windfall

gains from free building soci-

ety shares.
Food, furniture, DIY and

He said the need for further

Co-op settles for £750,000 payment

John Willcock

The Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS) has accepted a settlement of £750,000 in return for dropping its civil action against Andrew Regan, Lanica Trust, Galileo Group, Allan Green and David Lyons over their aborted bid for CWS.

The CWS launched a civil claim for damages on 18 April over the disclosure of confidential CWS documents passed by Mr Green to Mr Regan. Both the CWS and the Regan camp refused to comment on the amount of yesterday's full and final settlement, but it is understood to be around £750,000. Lanica did not contribute to the payment.

The CWS's criminal prosecution against Mr Regan and Mr Lyons over the alleged theft of seven boxes of CWS documents will still go ahead, the company said yesterday. Mr Regan and Mr Lyons said that they "intend to defend these proceedings vigorous-

ly". Lanica, Mr Regan's company, said it would shortly announce the date on which its audited results for 1996 would be published and that its listing would be restored at the same time.

The settlement is the latest chapter in the humiliating climbdown by Mr Regan, 31, and his followers after their failed £1.2bn hostile break -up bid for the Co-op.

The bid fell apart last month when a High Court judge described the transfer of CWS documents from Mr Green, a CWS director, to Mr Regan as a "gross, wilful and disgraceful breach of confidence". Mr Green was subsequently

sacked. Mr Regan formed Galileo in December 1996 to use as a bid vehicle. His plan was to appeal over the heads of the board, who were opposed to him, directly to the Co-op's membership. Lanica invested £602,000 in Galileo. When the bid failed Galileo was put into voluntary

mail order saw the strongest liquidation by Mr Regan. sales growth last month, The liquidator of Galileo is considering bringing claims against some of Mr Regan's according to the survey. The pound gained more than 2 pfennigs to end above DM2.76 yesterday after the former advisers to recover substantial damages. Lanica, as one of the shareholders in Chancellor, Gordon Brown, Galileo, may benefit if Galileo is successful in these claims, speaking in Brussels, ruled out the pound's re-entry to the ex-Lanica said yesterday.

IN BRIEF

GMB negotiates more 'partnership' deals

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB union, yesterday disclosed that a further six "partnership" agreements were under negotiation between employers and unions after Blue Circle Cement announced a ground-breaking pay and productivity deal with its 2,000 employees. Under the agreement, the workforce gets job security and pay increases equal to inflation plus 0.25 per cent for each of the next three years. In return, the company will save £10m a year by cutting up to 360 jobs under a voluntary redundancy programme and introducing flexible working arrangements. BCC has also undertaken to work towards a 37hour week by 2001 and is seeking to roll the pay deal on beyond three years. Mr Edmonds described the deal as a "blueprint for social partnership under a Labour government" and said GMB intended to strike similar deals across the country.

News Corp sued by satellite partner

Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation is facing a massive lawsuit in the US filed against it by EchoStar Communications of Denver following the collapse of a deal signed by the two companies in February for a joint satellite broadcasting venture. The court action, which could lead to a damages claim of up to \$5bn (£3bn), appears to drop the curtain on an agreement under which News Corp was meant to invest \$1bn in EchoStar in cash and assets for a 50 per cent share in the new enterprise. It had been championed by Mr Murdoch as the ideal platform for launching a 500-channel "Sky" satellite service in the US. In seeking the damages, EchoStar is citing lost profits and material breaches by News Corp of the parties' original agreement.

Inflation rates fall in EU countries

Average inflation in the EU fell to 1.7 per cent in March from 2 per cent in February and 2.6 per cent in March 1996, the statistical office Eurostat said yesterday. The figure was based on the new harmonised indices of consumer prices (HICP), developed for consistent comparisons between countries. On this basis, Finland (0.8 per cent), Sweden (1.0 per cent) and France (1.1 per cent) had the lowest inflation rates in March. Greece had the highest at 5.9 per cent, while the UK's HICP inflation rate was 1.8

Ethical Holdings flotation to raise £20m

Ethical Holdings, the pharmaceuticals company which develops hormone replacement therapy patches, will raise £20m when it floats on the stock market via a placing in the next two months, valuing the group at around £65m. The Cambridgeshire-based company, which specialises in making improved versions of medical products, already has a listing on the US's Nasdaq exchange where it is valued at around \$75m. Formed 12 years ago, Ethical made losses of £3.8m last year on sales of £14m. The company plans to become a "more integrated" drugs group and associated research costs mean losses will continue for at least three more years.

Switzerland approves Skyepharma drug

Skyepharma, the fledgling pharmaceuticals group launched last year by Ian Gowrie-Smith, the entrepreneur who founded Medeva, has had its first drug approved. The group's shares rose 5p to 80p. Skyepharma, which specialises in the fast-growing field of drug delivery, confirmed it had won approval in Switzerland for Mederate as interest the state of a drug for Parkinson's disfor Madopar, an improved version of a drug for Parkinson's disease developed by Swiss giant Roche. Skyepharma will manufacture the drug for Roche and get royalties on sales. Worldwide sales of the old drug are £88m.

Rugby buys Covent Garden block for £8m

Rugby Estates has acquired a large estate in Covent Garden, London, for £8.4m. The estate comprises a 40,000-sq ft freehold mixeduse block of property at the junction of The Strand and Bedford Street. Rugby said the purchase was its largest single acquisition. The estate, situated at the southern entrance to the Covent Garden area, has a combined frontage to The Strand and Bedford Street of 300 feet. This block comprises restaurant and retail units on the ground floor with office and residential accommodation above. The purchase price produces an initial rental yield of 8

ister, has indicated her willing- been entitled to even if they be Prudential. Inflationary pressure low, says Bank

Economics Editor

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d April

On the eve of the first Inflation Report to be published by the Bank of England since it gained its independence, new figures yesterday suggested that there were few inflationary pressures in industry. Price competition also remained keen on the high street despite a pick-up in retail sales last month.

Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, said yes-terday that inflation would decline in the coming months. There was a better-than-even chance of meeting the 2.5 per cent inflation target this year, thanks partly to the strong

interest rates in the near future which carnings are increasing, retreated yesterday. However, today's report is likely to indicate that the Bank remains unemployment and pay due commodity prices. alert to the possibility of the tomorrow. need to raise rates later this year to head off future that inflation at the factory gate increases in inflation.

showed underlying inflation at raw materials costs declined by recent and climbing next more than 10 per cent in the 12 year. Against the quarter-point months to April. rise in base rates since then,

But any further base rate bers to the Bank's new year. monetary policy committee. Analysts will be on the lookout in April, taking them 10.2 per

Yesterday's statistics showed dropped below 1 per cent last Its last report, in February, month, while manufacturers'

Prices charged by manufacmany indicators have signalled turers rose by 0.2 per cent in faster growth in the economy. the month, to reach a level 0.8 per cent higher than a year earmoves would occur after the lier. Excluding the effect of in-Budget, and after the ap- creases in excise duties, output

pointment of outside mem- prices have barely risen year on Input prices fell 1.9 per cent

Fears of a further increase in for a further rise in the rate at cent lower than a year earlier. chairman of the BRC's eco-The decline reflects a combi-

The weak price pressures in manufacturing contrast with rising costs in service industries. "Manufacturing will have to deliver price stability in order for us to achieve low inflation for the economy as a whole," said Geoffrey Dicks, chief UK economist at Nat West Markets.

Separately, the British Retail Consortium said the volume of sales on the high street picked up in April. The annual growth of like-

for-like sales rose from 3.7 to 4.1 per cent, and total volumes from 7.1 to 7.4 per cent. But Andrew Higginson, change rate mechanism.

...BECAUSE DIRECT DEBIT MEANS BILLS ARE AUTOMATICALLY PAID ON TIME AND IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF AN ERROR YOUR BANK GUARANTEES TO REFUND YOUR MONEY IMMEDIATELY.

__ UK BANKS AND BUILDING SOCIETIES ----

DIRECT

DD YOUR DOUGH -

Argos plunges on new warning

Magnus Grimond

Argos, the once high-flying cat-alogue retailer, saw its shares plunge 24.5p to 623p yesterday after issuing its second profit warning of the year. The group said one-off costs and higher interest charges of around E3m resulting from the £127m special dividend paid last year would mean that profits would fall in the first half of the current year.

market with a new warning paper prices and distribution that it was seeing sluggish or costs would make it difficult to even negative growth in a number of markets. In January, the £31.8m interim profits, Even so, group saw its shares crash 110p. many full-year forecasts were

also to 623p, after it revealed trimmed yesterday. Sean Eddie were more general: "The lack the year would be much more that sales had grown by a dis- at NatWest Markets clipped appointing 4 per cent, like-forlike, in the month before £12m above 1996 profits, and Christmas Eve, its top selling

Yesterday, it said that like-forlike sales had accelerated to 5.5 per cent in the first 18 weeks of 1997, a rise of 12 per cent in unadjusted terms,

Analysis had been braced for further difficulties after However, it also unnerved the Argos said in March that higher improve on last year's record

his by £7m to £153m, some voiced concerns about a possible slowdown in the group's growth rate.

It was disappointing to see prices being "sharpened" at a time of depressed volumes while, more importantly, the group was also adding to overheads, he said. "They have geared themselves into needing more sales at the same time as sales are proving more clusive."

However, Nick Hawkins, an

Time is a Carousel: Four pocket watches, 3,000 gem stones and a price of £4m

of consistency and predictability in sales at the moment is of some concern. If things are not nice and stable and solid at this stage in the cycle, there could be more worries ahead." But he added: "Nobody is pointing the finger at Argos, it's all about the

The Argos warning came at the retail group's annual general meeting yesterday. Sir Richard Lloyd, chairman, told shareholders that, despite the depressed state of some of its markets, it continued to believe

heavily dependent on the final quarter than on the first half. "Your board is expecting a stronger second-half performance compared with 1996 and believes the group is well positioned to demonstrate continued growth in 1997 as a whole."

He said the group was continuing with its strategy to boost sales, fundamental to which was "setting the high street agenda". Of product lines reappearing in this year's catalogue, 94 per cent are included at the same or a cheaper price, which

Argos follower at Merrill it was growing its market shares. had resulted in a 2 per cent re-Lynch, suggested the problems As usual, the final outcome for duction in average selling prices.

Marguiies (pictured

watch retailer Time,

watches costing no

almost 3,000 gem

emeralds and same

number of rubies and

fashioned with more than 3kg of engraved

Manufactured by

Blancpain, the long-

watchmaker, the aim is to combine advanced

movement components

with extravagant

have one other

craftsmanship. Sadly the watches

drawback apart from

the price: they all need

to be wound by hand.

financial results today

Photograph: Ben Schott

Time Products will

The carousel alone is

less than £4m.

diamonds, 448

white gold.

established

looks at the Carousei of Time, a collection of four Swiss pocket

The collection houses

stones, including 1,645

left), chairman of

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN EDITED BY MAGNUS GRIMOND

SGB scaffolding looks to Far East for profits growth

construction group, despite its remarkable turnaround under new management over the past 18 months or so. The decision to float SGB, the scaffolding business which forms Mowlem's most profitable division, says more about the milistone of a £50m Eurobond at an 11.5 per cent interest rate than any grand strategic plan.

£1.7m a year in interest costs, while its decision to retain 51 per cent of SGB will allow it to continue to consolidate the scaffolding group's profits. That represents a powerful vote of confidence in SGB from its former owner, which

But the group is doing its best to have its cake and eat it: the

float should save Mowlem

must assume another year of profits growth ahead. New investors may, however, choose a more cautious approach. Certainly SGB looks a de-cent enough business on the

face of it. Half its £135m UK sales come from the SGB Youngman hire-and-sale operation, which claims market leadership in non-powered building equipment such as scaffolding and access towers. Another 30 per cent of SGB's domestic turnover is de-

rived from contracting. of which around a quarter is specialist scaffolding for oil refineries, chemical plants and the like. Here the hope is that. given the high barriers to entry, this will provide better more sustainable margins than the wafer-thin fare usually provided by traditional

contracting. SGB also has new management, most of whom appear to have been parachuted in from Laporte by Ken Minton, the chemicals group's former chief executive who chairs Mowlem and its scaffolding subsidiary. The team is already busy on a £3.7m rationalisation programme for the manufacturing division, which will involve around 200 jobs being cut for an annual saving of around

£2m by 1998. ternational spread, SGB remains highly dependent on large and lumpy contracts. A large chunk of the profits growth over the past two years has come from work for the new Hong Kong airport, which came to an end this year.

up by other Far Eastern business, but he still has to prove that large parts of SGB's UK operation are more than just in commodity businesses.

He should be given a fair wind in his quest by the housebuilding revival, even if an upturn for general construction might help the scaffolding industry more. Assuming pre-tax profits come in at around £15m this year, brokers are tentatively looking at a forward p/e of 14 on the £130m-odd launch value. That is no bar-gain, but the issue should go well in the current market.

British Bio hit by no-news-itis

British Biotech needs to find a cure for nonews-itis. Shares in the UK's largest biotechnology group have underperformed the market by 25 per cent since hitting a 326p high 12 months ago. Small wonder the group has resorted to dressing up old news as new.

Yesterday it used the pretext of a presentation given to a US conference on digestion to announce that final-stage clinical trials on its most advanced drug, Zacutex, the acute pancreatitis treatment formerly in fewer patients dying and less just the tonic it needs.

Dast problems continue to ecutive who arrived from - organ failure. But the story had haunt John Mowlem, the Laporte in October, is confidenced already been well-rehearsed dent the baton can be picked and British Bio's shares fell 4.5p to 243.5p yesterday.

Many observers reckon Zacutex will be a small drug in sales terms; some project peak world-wide sales as low as £50m against estimates as high as £600m. If borne out, the lower figures would be immaterial in terms of British Biotech's share price.

Even so. Zacutex remains important. Given the encouraging clinical data on the treatment, the group could be the first UK biotech to get a new drug on the market. something that would undoubtedly help sentiment. True, Celltech is racing to get its sepsis drug to market first, but this has yet to be filed for approval, whereas Zacutex has already been submitted to the European authorities.

With no other treatments for pancreatitis around, the drug could be fast-tracked for approval by the year-end. More importantly, approval of Zacutex will allow the group to break in its freshly installed and untried sales and marketing teams in Europe on a minor drug before the launch of the biggie - its cancer med-icine. Marimastat.

That could eventually be worth \$1bn and analysts reckon 75 per cent of British Bio's valuation rests on this product alone. Though British Bio has much to prove, a positive known as lexipafant, resulted launch for Zacutex should be

on strong pound

Sameena Ahmad

IMI, the engineering group, vesterday added its name to the lengthening list of UK companies to warn about the impact of the strong pound on its profits.

At its annual general meeting. Sir Eric Pountain, chairman. conceded that the strength of sterling, particularly against the German mark, could lop £15m off full-year profits - £5m more than the group forecast at its full-year results in March. However he added that despite sterling, "we expect that the first half will be up on 1996."

IMI is heavily exposed to the German market through its building products interests, with around 45 per cent of group sales sold into Continental Europe. However analysts were unruffled by the news and IMTs shares slipped just 3p to 358p. James Capel's Patrick Mar-

shall said: "They already told us the bad stuff on sterling, so this is not big news. IMI has always been quite prudent. In all likelihood they will do better on profits than this statement suggests". Zafar Khan, a analyst at SGST pointed out that there had

been some easing of currency pressures in the last few days. "I am not changing my £153m profit forecast for the full year yer. But with some numbers as high as £160m. I think there will be downgrades in the market." IMI's finance director. Alan

Emson, shrugged off suggestions that its statement was a profits warning. "We are simply giving our best estimate of how currency changes will affect us." He denied that the group's acquisition of German-based radiator valve group Heimer had left it over-exposed to the weak mark and European construction sector.

IMI gives Warning Digital TV bid may go to court dependent Television Commis. a judicial review of the TC's da. visor to Marmorat Backett the

Cathy Newman

The battle to run digital terrestrial television could end up in the High Court, it emerged vesterday, after British Digital Broadcasting (BDB), the bidder which includes Carlton, Granada and BSkyB, launched a bitter assault on its rival. Digital

leievision Network (DIN). BDB sources said the inclusion of United News & Media. Lord Hollick's newspapers to television group, in the DTN bid threatened to contravene In-

Portman, one of the most

vehemently pro-mutual building

societies, is to take over Green-

wich Building Society later this

year, the two organisations an-

The takeover, officially called

a merger, will lead to payments

of 5 per cent gross on the bal-

ances of savers, up to a maxi-

mum of £2,500. Borrowers will

receive a £200 bonus if Green-

wich members approve the deal

in June. Ken Culley, chief executive at Portman, said: "The merger will

nounced yesterday.

Nic Cicutti

sion rules governing changes to applications after the final deadline of 31 January. United revealed last week that it would take a 30 per cent stake in DTN if it won the digital terrestrial licence, due to be announced by the ITC next month. A source within BDB said:

The rules are clear: you can t the closure of the bid, particularly when you've had time to study the other's bid." It is thought BDB could seek

Portman to take

over smaller society

largest society.

of both societies.

One City analyst said last

night: "This prefigures some of

the defensive retrenchments we

are likely to see among mutual

dependent Television Commis- a judicial review of the ITC's decision. Because United joined provisionally in the DTN consortium after the deadline it is understood to have submitted changes to its application to the ITC. They cover the United directors who would join the operation and United's share-

submit extra information after thought to include information on the political affiliations of Lord Hollick. United's chief ex- ful in getting a licence." ecutive and Labour peer. Lord Hollick has become a special ad- changes were sensitive.

visor to Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade. A spokesman for United News & Media said he was confident the amendments did not breach the ITC's rules in any way which could be deemed by the ITC to be unfair. The spokesman said: "We had to

supply them with an amended sion, concerning what it would look like if DTN were success-However, he admitted the

Bid talk lifts shares Robert Stokell, the chief exin Canadian Pizza

both societies and will add further strength to Portman, already pizza and pizza-crust maker, recognised as a leading society in the South of England." yesterday leapt from 89.5p to 100p after it announced it had The deal would add Greenreceived a tentative approach. The company, floated in wich's seven branches to the 109

already operated by Portman. 1993, issued a statement about which has assets of more than possible offers being made". The board confirms that one £4bn and is now the UK's 10th tentative approach has been Greenwich's head office will made, which may or may not lead to an offer for the entire be used to provide a postal and telephone service to members issued share capital."

Neither Peter Woodall, managing director, nor Barry O'Connell, chairman, would elaborate further.

Canadian Pizza - which is to be beneficial to members of societies in the next few years." I change its name to Paramount

Shares in Canadian Pizza, the Foods before 1 July - has issued three profits warnings since 1993. But in March the company began to change its fortunes, with the announcement of a 51 per cent rise in annual

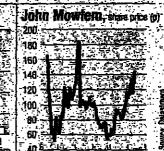
pre-tax profits to £2.1m. As recently as last Friday, at its annual meeting, Canadian claimed it intended to grow through acquisition and "through the development of the opportunities that exist within the current businesses".

Last March it bought Meridian Foods, the cooking sauces and low-sugar jam specialist, for £1.13m as part of its diversification strategy.

SGB: at a glance

Market value £1,30m share price 1750 1994 1995 1996 1997 Trading record Turnover (CID) Operating profits (£m) Return on assets (%)

*estimated flotation values Profits, by business pay



Sparkling year for Old English Pub

It is not just the giants of the drinks indus-try which are consolidating to combat the effects of a mature market. Right at the other end of the scale, the Old English Pub Company has been showing for the past few years how to attack the well-lined pockets of middle-class drinkers in the prosperous south of England by scooping up small country pubs and inns.

Since its flotation at 50p on the Alternative Investment Market nearly two years ago, the company, headed by former Grand Metropolitan executive Barry Warwick, has raised close to £19m and taken the chain from under 30 to 88 outlets.

All the while, the shares, recently promoted to the main market, have risen pretty much in a straight line, adding another 10p to a new all-time high of 266.5p yesterday on another cracking set of results.

Pre-tax profits more than tripled, rising from £494,000 to £1.63m, in the year to March. Earnings per share leapt from 2.86p to 7.77p.
With a group expanding this fast, it is often difficult to disentangle the underlying picture.

In fact, the stated 11 per cent rise in sales trans-

lated into a more pedestrian 5 per cent on a like-for-like basis. More important though was the effect on margins, which have climbed from 13.1 to 17

per cent at the operating level. The formula continues to work, but the cost remains high. Gearing was 140 per cent at the year and is only set to fall to 68 per cent by 2000, with another 18 houses in a sweep from Hampshire to Surrey to be added this

Even if profits hit £3.5m in 1997, the shares on a forward multiple of 21 fully discount the prospects. Hold.

Great North Eastern seeks extra decade on franchise

Randeep Ramesh

Transport Correspondent Great North Eastern Railway,

which runs high-speed train services from London to Scotland, is seeking to extend the length of its franchise by a decade to invest in new rolling stock and upgrade the electri-

of 10 tilting trains worth up to £200m and make a substantial upgrade to run trains at 140mph for most of the east coast journey. In return GNER wants to extend its licence from seven

years to 17. "We know now that unless we make additional capital invest-

Chris Garnett, chief execu- ment we will have acute diffitive, outlined plans to buy a fleet culty in carrying the numbers of passengers," said Mr Garnett. Under the current legalisation, the length of a franchise cannot be extended without being re-tendered and offered to other competitors, but he

believes the Secretary of State

has the authority to waive that

part of the process.

The company has held exploratory talks with the new administration, but Labour ministers have yet to come to terms with the intricacies of the private railways and a decision is not

expected for some months. GNER, which has been run by Sea Containers for .12 months, considers itself a victim trains in the rush hour will b of its own success, with pas-

senger volumes up 8 per cen resulting in passenger revenue of £252m.

The problem for GNER that it has an average load fac-

tor of 59 per cent. It predicts that this will ris within two years to 65 per cer - which will mean that mo overcrowded.

	Compar	ıy Resu	lts	
	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EP\$	Dhyldenø
API Groep (I)	70.0m (58.15m)	6.08m (4.22m)	15.59p (13,59p)	4.93p (4.48p)
DCC (F)	Ir627 66m (535.7m	1 k31.59m (28.48m)	33.1p (25.35p)	8.0p (6.9p)
Dipioma (I)	125.5m (113.9m)		12.3p (12.7p)	4.5p (4.5p)
Edge Properties (SP)*	15.38m (1.1m)	1.066m (-1.04m)	2.7p (-24.1p)	- (-)
GrandMet (I)	4 31bn (4.55bn)	428m (449m)	14.9p (14.8p)	6.25p (5.85p
Hord Anglia (i)	17.67m (9.05m)	107,000 (-236,000)	-0.69p (02.34p)	-{-}
Old English Pah (F)	14.73m (7 76m)	1 6m (493,818)	7.77p (2.88p)	2.0p (-)
Shallbane (F)	7.74m (7.2m)	406,000 (292,000)		1.05p (-)
(F) - Anai (1) - Interna	(M) - Note months			

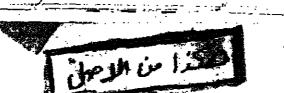
*Current ags 14 milis, comparatives 12 months

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Punters go talent-spotting after giant drinks alliance

FISE 100 4669.6 + 38.7 **FISE 250** 4526.4 + 0.2

FTSE 350 2262.6 + 15.1 SEAQ VOLUME 763.1m shares, 63,355 bargains Gilts Index 96.57 - 0.53

Share spotlight

Amstrad

With the mammoth Grand ideal for Seagram, the giant Metropolitan/Guinness drinks Canadian drinks group that alliance reasserting the magical appeal of corporate activity, the stock market spent a happy session striving to find the next blue chip player in the

takcover game.
A rush of talent-spotting and another pulsating display in New York display sent Footsie stretching to another high, up 38.7 points to 4,669.6.

GrandMet and Guinness were in unabashed celebratory mood, helped by the proposed 60p-a-share cash distribution. Guinness led the ferment with an 86p gain to 602.5p, best for five years; GrandMet soared to an all-time high of 591p. EMI, Pearson and Cadbury

Schweppes were the Footsie constituents singled out for speculative attention. They as a possible bid target. A

seems to have surrendered its thirst for wine and spirit growth to accommodate its

media aspirations. The shares, despite a downbeat review from Salomon Brothers, the US investment house, spun 68p higher to

The security group's highly rated analysis, Ivor Jones, Richard Dale and David Forster, regard the shares as no more than a hold, suggesting a price between 1,250p and 1,300p on trading considerations. They do not think an EMI bid likely but "the possibilities of bid lik bility of a bid should not be ig-

Pearson, the banking to me-

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

The market was inclined to

give Allied the benefit of the doubt, lifting the shares from

group. The shares responded with a 33p gain to 749.5p. Cadbury Schweppes, up 23p to 552p. is another that has often encountered takeover speculation. The soft drinks could be strengthened and there are also hopes that the merged group will be more inclined to hold prices, rather than give way to price-cut-ting. On the other hand GMG Brands has only to flex its and sweets group, which is finding the going tough in the bitterly contested US drinks market, is felt to be vulnerable underperformer.

figures today, was also drawn into the spirits distillation.

to the attentions of Néstle or

manage only a 0.2 gain to 4,526.4 with few investors able to muster much enthusiasm.

Financials had a period in the shadows. Even so, some kept up their remorseless progress with Abbey National and National Westminster Bank among those moving ahead. But Alliance & Leicester stumbled, falling 12.5p to

Sum Life & Provincial put on 18.5p to 321.5p on the premise the insurance group had, to some extent, been overlooked in the acceptance.

in the recent upsurge.
The Savoy Hotel attracted attention on stories a deal was near with Granada, which in-

voting, 'A' shares 35p to 1,460p. The Hillsdown food and The rarely traded 'B' shares furniture group has severed held at £34.

held at £34.

Amstrad, the electronic company founded by Alan Sugar, jumped 32p to 253.5p after its court success against Seagate Technology of California. The group could soon have more than £230m in cash and the market hopes Mr. Sugar, who once attempted to take the business private, will pay a special dividend. Sunderland suffered the

predictable result from rele-gation, falling 39p to 445p. In March the shares were 760p. Argos, the catalogue stores chain, lost 24.5p to 623p on its

its link with Rugby Estates. It is thought to have sold its remaining near-14 per cent interest, leaving the property group's shares up 4p at 160p. Rugby was once Hillsdown's property arm; it was Boated three years ago. The property group also paid £8.4m adding to its Covent

Garden estate.

☐ More discomfort for Bula Resources, the oil and gas ex-plorer. The shares dipped 0.25p to 2p after its disclosed there had been an over-optimistic report on a well on its Allied Domecq, due to produce another round of flat figures today, was also drawn into the spirits distillation.

Scagram and Allied will be spirits distillation.

Scagram and Allied will be the figure at the day's the only significant spirit.

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•	150 130 MJJASONDJEMAM	speculative attention. They were perceived as candidates for large groups seeking to re- inforce their global presence. The showbiz group is seen as	host of would-be predators have been put forward, rang- ing from assorted US corpo-	Scagram and Allied will be the only significant spirit groups outside the Grand- met/Guinness combine. So Allied's take-out appeal	hunchtime, ending at the day's high. The rest of the market, however, missed the party.	family, which has a large share- holding in the high-powered 'B' shares, may be prepared to re- solve the present stalemate lifted the widely held, but low-	Corporation share-buying. Canadian Pizza rose 10.5p to 100p on takeover talk but Gieves, the tailors, held at 47.5p as a bidder appeared.	hopeful of corporate activity. Several parties have shown interest in the struggling op- eration and there is talk new investors may move in.
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Stick 'em together, pull 'em apart. It's the Velcro age

Tt is the age of the Velcro company. We had an example vesterday with Guinness/Grand-Met, but there are many more. ICI splits into two and the smaller bit. Zeneca, becomes the larger one. Then the smaller bit buys a chunk of Unilever because that seems to fit better in ICI. Hanson spends three decades merging, then little more than three months demerging.

And so on. But why? Why this stick 'em together, pull 'em apart culture?

The best place to start is with a paradox. In many ways the world of husiness is becoming more pre-dictable. Companies face much smaller swings in interest rates, and lower levels of inflation than they have for a generation. They probahiv will face smaller swings in currencies - insofar as currency movements reflect differential inflation. But if the financial world in which companies operate has become more stable, their own structures have become less stable.

Of course quoted companies, certainly in the Anglo-Saxon world, have long been subject to the threat of a takeover. But present corporate restructuring differs from the takenver-driven culture in several ways. Even high-profile restructuring is typically an agreed process, involving the sale and purchase of company divisions, rather than an antagonistic clash between two managements. Much restructuring involves management buyouts or buy-ins, or the outsourcing of services, rather than actual takeovers.

Restructuring is much more likely to be international - the purchase of a company or a division of a company by an organisation in another country - than it was a generation ago. And - partly a function of this cross-border element - it frequently takes the form of an agreement to co-operate, a strategic relationship, which may or may not be reinforced by a shareholding, rather than an

outright takeover. These differences are themselves the result of a series of changes in the global economy which, taken together, help explain the rise of the Velcro culture. There are at least four.



HamishMcRae

Present corporate restructuring differs from the takeover-driven culture. It is typically an agreed process rather than an antagonistic clash

One (particularly important in the case of Guinness and GrandMet) is the impact the explosion of information has had on the need for global brands. Well, perhaps "need" is the wrong word, for we hardly need the variety of brands that are available in any British supermarket any more than the Chinese actually need Coca-Cola. But in a world of infinite information it certainly becomes possible to sell a brand globally in a way that would have been very much more difficult a genera-

tion ago. Result: great pressure on companies that own national brands to extract more value out of them by turning them into international ones. But while the rewards for so doing are enormous, it is an expensive and complex process, putting pressure on brand-owners to

A second change is the growing importance of human capital in in-

ternational competitiveness. When revenues and the flight slots split bea company's main assets were physical plant and equipment, the main case for a merger or a takeover was to acquire that plant. Sure, the buyer would be acquiring customers too - distribution and market share - but that was usually just a function of acquiring the product line and the means of producing it. Increasingly now, the main asset being acquired is the brains of the staff; these may be in the form of patents or systems or a royalty stream, but some-

times (as in investment banking) the asset is simply the people themselves. If the principal asset of a company is human capital it becomes possi-ble to move in and out of businesses much more quickly than it would be if the principal asset is a physical one. An example: German companies have recently bought much of the British motor industry and much of its investment banking industry. But while BMW will clearly take several years to sort out the problems of Rover, Deutsche Bank and Dresdner Bank have made an immediate impact on Morgan Grenfell

and Kleinwort Benson. None of these takeovers has been entirely smooth, and there must be those who wonder whether the investment decision was entirely wise. But if BMW wanted to reverse its strategy and sell Rover, this would be an enormous upheaval. On the other hand, were the banks to decide to pull back, the London investment banks could be separated from their parents and sold in a matter of months.

Not all people businesses will go global, for there are cultural limits. Advertising provides a good example of an industry where global dreams have faded. But many will.

Change number three follows from this last point. It is the move into the international traded arena of many services that were previously only sold nationally. Typical examples are national network businesses which have become international ones: airlines, telephone services, postal (and courier) services and just beginning - television. A gen-eration ago international airline routes were often pooled, with the

tween two national carriers, both of which charged identical fares. There was no choice of phone company; courier services were only just beginning to break the monopoly of national postal services for urgent parcels; you could not watch another country's television.

The barriers in these industries are falling at different rates, but the direction of change is clear. As a result, a whole series of international links are being forged: code-sharing in the airlines, telecommunications mergers, the growth of courier services, international television linkups. These links are not necessarily takeovers, though they may take that form; they do, however, provide many examples of this Velcro cor-

porate world. Finally, the very fact that the financial world is more stable (and more international) means more pressure on all companies to perform. Companies can be compared more easily internationally and are less likely to enjoy advantages (for long) from undervalued currencies or subsidised interest rates. So if a part of the group does not seem to fit, there is more pressure to dispose

If this is at least a partial answer to the "why?" question, where will this process lead? I can see two main trends. One is that more industries will become like the motor or oil industries, dominated by a handful of giants and with little or no room for the middle-sized. There will be a handful of airline groups, a handful of telecommunications groups, a handful of financial service companies, and probably a handful of global food and drink groups.

At the same time, there will be an explosion of very small companies. As the giants consolidate, they will find themselves shedding more and more fringe functions, which they will need to buy in, quite often from people who were previously employed by them. As a result, the emergence of more global giants will create more opportunities for tiny companies, not fewer. The bigger companies become, the more they need small ones to help them.

Dress to suit yourself when you ball with the Lord Mayor •

Sadly, the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Roger Cork, is unavailable for comment on the spectacular collapse in dress standards for the Mansion House Dinner in June. He's touring Slovenia.

Last year Kenneth Clarke started the rot at Mansion House when he abandoned the 120-yearold dress code of white tie, a complicated affair of bibs and studs, in favour of the black-tie

"French waiter" look. Now his successor, Gordon Brown, has let it be known that he will be wearing a bank

manager-style lounge suit. I am told that Mr Brown always wears exactly the same thing dark blue suit, blue shirt, red tie with white spots on it and black shoes (no Clarke-style Hush Puppies nonsense).

New Labour insiders speculate that he once bought a job-lot of them to save time

Alderman Cork will be wearing his full bib and tucker, whatever anyone else turns up in. But it could be said that past Lord Mayors could have contributed to this modern malaise.

Back in the 18th century Sir William Curtis MP, known as "Billy Biscuit" because of his Bermondsey naval biscuits factory, was mercilessly lampooned for his absurd get-ups.

A collection of George Cruickshank's cartoons of our Billy, illustrated here in an imaginary costume, goes on show at the Guildhall Library next

Back to today. The Treasury is sanguine about the current flight from formality at Mansion House, but the City Corporation is a little more concerned.

A spokesman says: "Will it be T-shirts and flip-flops next year? I'm not sure that we have ever seen anyone in T-shirt and jeans at this occasion. On the other hand we're not in the business of chucking people out."

Everyone's talking about That Dinner. You know the one, on 10 April, when George Bull, chairman of GrandMet, invited his opposite number at Guinness for a spot of dinner. By the time

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Taking the biscuit: Sir William Curtis, an 18th century rebei

the liqueurs came they had decided on a £20bn mercer. According to Mr Bull, the confidential tête-à-tête in central London was a jovial affair. "We have been friends for years," he

Tony Greener and I have known each other for 17 years and have been in 'friendly conflict' with each other across the world, and therefore it's a matter of great pleasure now to come together.

"The discussions started because I invited Tony to dinner," says Mr Bull.

"It was exactly at that dinner on that date that I put the proposition that perhaps it was time that we settled down to a serious discussion and consider the prospect and the possibility." Mr Greener then shot off for a

week's holiday in Africa where he

instructed his underlings to figure out whether the regulators would allow the deal. They thought yes, and the rest is history. Whether the merger was

mulled the idea over, having

toasted with malt whisky, Mr Bull wouldn't say.

Granada and Yorkshire-Tyne Tees (YTT) are cosying up again, I hear, following Granada's recent frosty proclamation that it had "no present intention of bidding

Granada already holds 27 per cent of YTI, and City punters are panting for a bit of bid action. But Granada recently broke off contact with the TV company as it thought YTT had been trying to "talk up" its bid price.

Then last week both Gerry Robinson, Granada's chairman, and Charles Allan, the company's chief executive, were spotted sitting in the front row of YTT's

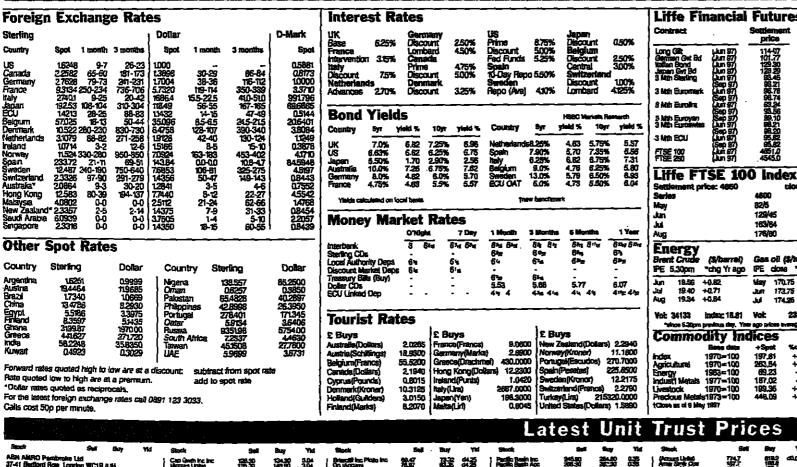
agm.
Taking valuable time off from their programme of selling off various hotels, messrs Robinson and Allan then shared the Forte corporate jet with Ward Thomas, YTT chairman, as they flew back from Leeds to London after the agm. The pipe of peace was smoked, and merger talks were resumed. Look out for a statement soon.

Evita lyricist Tim Rice and Yorkshire-born interviewer Michael Parkinson had the shine wiped off their weekend last Friday when Pavilion Books, a small publishing company of which they are both nonexecutive directors, went bust.

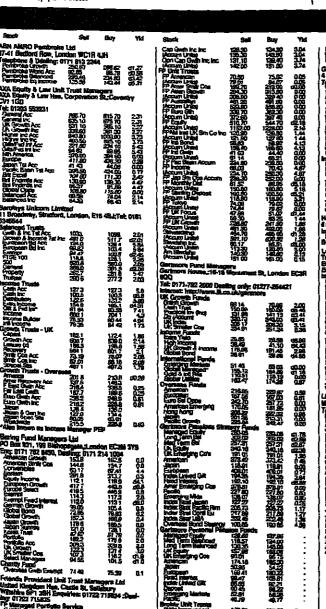
Happily the receivers, Keith Goodman and Philip Monjack of Leonard Curtis, managed to sell the business yesterday to another up-and-coming London publishing house. C&B Publishing.

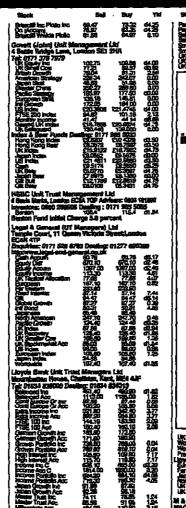
Pavilion produces coffee-table books, mostly with a culinary

John Willcock



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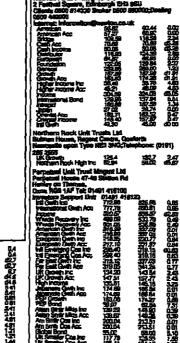


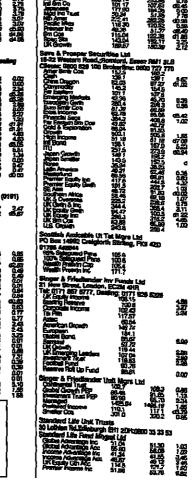


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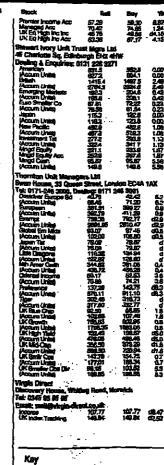
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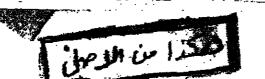




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Stewart make points in race for acceptance

Motor racing

DERICK ALLSOP reports from Monte Carlo

Many have, over the years, cast envious glances across the har-bour to a new life. For Jackie Stewart and his cohorts, escape from Alcatraz is now a very real

Stewart told the world he was prepared to serve his time, commit his clan to hard labour, and earn his return to Formula One's high society. Just five races into his term, he and the rest of the Stewart-Ford organisation have a second place to show for their endeavours.

Rubens Barrichello's excellent performance, eclipsed only by the imperious Michael Schumacher and his Ferrari, in Sunday's Monaco Grand Prix, raised hopes in Stewart's camp of a base in the main paddock, alongside the established teams. rather than the cell in a remote back road unaffectionately

known among inmates as

At management level, this extraordinary success was seen as a powerful marketing weapon: a means of prising more sponsorship money, per-haps £6m to £8m of it, to add to the working budget of £20m. Stewart have advertising space on their car available to the right bidders and so far the offers have

not met their requirements.
Paul Stewart, son of Jackie and the team's managing director, said: "We have plans to grow and we're looking at big sums of money to achieve that. We have space on the car, but we've turned down smaller bids because we don't want to split up the space. We want the right

"Motor sports is all about success, so any achievement is going to reflect well on the company and help us. People are not going to be knocking on our door, but this result means they will be more receptive. We have major partners, like Ford, and that is a big incentive, but we still have to find other money if we are going to be in a position to

people would like to see us fail, but if they consider long and hard enough they might feel this is good for the sport in general and the motor racing public." Apart from any sponsorship

compete with the top teams.

The Stewart name might open doors, but we still have to do business. It might be some

this past weekend may have generated, the Stewart team have picked up useful prize-money, and travel and freight allowances. Not to mention the points to improve their chances of moving up Formula One's jealously guarded pecking order. Stewart have jumped to seventh in the constructors'

championship, immediately behind Jordan-Peugeot. Their fortunes should not have escaped the attention of Damon Hill. who rejected offers from both to sign for Arrows-Yamaha.



هكذا من الاجل

Jackie Stewart watches his son, Paul, juggle with the novel task of holding a trophy at Monte Carlo

Hill is still seeking his first finish of the year.

Not that his former team. Williams-Renault, performed any better here. Their decision to start the race on an obviously

Success for the Godolphin

runner today might prompt the regulars at Pontefract to observe

how typical it is that, after they had waited for many years to see a potential Classic winner, two

came along at once. Form at the

West Yorkshire track rarely of-

fers many clues to the follow-

ing season's best events, but

there is every encouragement in

Entice's narrow defeat of Fahris

by following his success in the

Feilden Stakes at Newmarket -

there last October. Symonds

Inn, third that day, had previ-

now a 16-1 chance for the Der-

slippery track with slick tyres instantly conceded the initiative to Schumacher, and both Jacques Villeneuve and Heinz-Harald Frentzen were lapped before they hit barriers and retired.

Williams have had a propensity for howlers in their past and they admit to getting it wrong here. But blunders tend to be magnified when perpetrated by the best and Williams remain

the team to beat. Although Schumacher and Ferrari head the standings, that could change at Barcelona on Sunday week. It would be typical of Williams to come back with a one-two.

Photograph: AP

Rockets and **Bulls close in** on the finals Basketball

The Chicago Bulls and Houston Rockets moved within a win of their conference finals with road victories on Sunday, but

both received scares, Michael Jordan scored 27 points and Scottie Pippen 26 as the Buils survived a late comeback by the Atlanta Hawks for an 89-80 victory and a 3-1 lead in their best-of-seven Eastern Conference semi-finals.

The Rockets had to go to overtime and needed 26 points and a three-pointer with 36 seconds left from rookie Matt Maloney to overcome the SuperSonics 110-106 and go up 3-1 in their Western semi-final.

The Bulls forward Dennis Rodman played only 11 minutes. but he took his tally of technical fouls to nine in the play-offs. "It's obvious Dennis can't play many minutes because his foulto-minute ratio will be one-toone, and the rest of us have to take up that slack," the Bulls for-

Entice has the potential to attract

Racing

GREG WOOD

Twelve months ago, as the sun rose on the Dante meeting at York, the Godolphin string which had arrived from Dubai barely a fortnight earlier had already produced the winner of one British Classic and the third runner home in another. Saeed bin Suroor, the man who holds their trainer's licence on Sheikh Mohammed's behalf, was at the head of the prizemoney table, just as he was when the season closed six months later.

This time around, the situation is rather different. Yesterday's Racing Post listed the top 49 trainers in Britain so far this season, and while this is sufficient to include several handlers with more experience in sellers than Classics, bin Suroor's name is conspicuously absent. The Turf's Luddite tendency, the old-timers who know only that Dubai is on the wrong side of Dover, are probably enjoying every minute.

2.05 Remaadi Sun

2.35 Polar Flight

3.10 Entice

But not, perhaps, for much longer. Any punter who is prepared to write off Godolphin's class of '97 on the basis of a handful of disappointing runs is the sort who gets birthday cards from their bookmaker, and the tide may turn as early as this afternoon, when Entice contests the Musidora Stakes, a race which seems sure to be the most significant snippet of form on

Oaks morning next month. The form horse in this race is Reams Of Verse, a shaky antepost favourite for the Oaks in the absence of anything better, who was sixth behind Sleepy-time in the 1,000 Guineas. She

YORK

2.05: Duraid may be best suited by 10 furlongs. In contrast, this trip is well within the compass of last year's winner, REMAADI SUN. But this five-year-old does need a strongly run race to show his best.

2.35: Further rain would not harm the prospects of POLAR FLIGHT, who won a mile event at Cologne last time but should be even better suited by this distance. The booking of

3.40 YORKIE GEORGE (nap)

4.40 Firting Around (nb)

4.10 Eastern Lyric

Henry Cecil, who has won the Musidora six times since 1985. but carries 3lb more than her nine rivals and could be vul-

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Blue River (York 2.35) NB: Malwood Castle (Chepstow 2.20)

nerable to an improving, unexposed filly. Noisette, Society Rose and Calypso Grant are among those to consider, but none makes as much appeal as Entice (next best 3.10).



Mick Kinane for Blue River heightens interest in a colt who can be expected to step up markedly on his

ously run Revoque to two-and-a-half lengths at York, so Entice fifth place when reintroduced at Newmarket a month ago. The Fly looks dangerous.

3.10: Reams Of Verse, ante-post favourite in a weak Oaks market, does not attract in view of the short odds likely today. ENTICE would seem to offer better value. Trained by Barry Hills to win twice last season (including a neck defeat of the Derby contender Fahris), this filly now runs for Godolphin.

3.40: Cyrano's Lad is up 5lb for his Newmarket win last week but this strong type will still be hard to peg back. His pace-making tactics in the centre of the track will be of advantage to other low-drawn runners, notably YORKIE GEORGE. This three-year-old, twice successful on soft ground last season, was considerately handled on good to firm going at Newmarket on his reaply mattered in the big races have not. We've had excuses, Shamikh was lame and Moonlight Paradise isn't 100 per cent now,

look to Angus-G, in the open-

ing handicap, as the soundest bet of the day, but while Mary

Reveley's runner has a solid

chance on the book, this is a far

more competitive event than his

"She's doing very nicely at the moment," Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, said yesterday. "Her form has worked out well, she's pro-gressive, and the thing with her is that she will progress and improve throughout the season. The ground and the trip at York will suit her well."

clearly set off for her winter re-

treat in the Middle East as a fil-

ly of some potential.

Nor is there a hint of panic following Godolphin's uncharacteristic start to the campaign. "Ninety per cent of the horses have run to their form," Crisford said, "but the ones which real-

odds suggest, and TEMPT-RESS (nap 2.05) could be the one to beat him. Mr Bombastique (2.35) must also go well, but as for the sprint handicap. do not even think about it. Branston Abby, the most prolific winning mare this century, landing 24 races, was put down yesterday because of grass sickness. An eight-year-old, who had been trained by Mark Johnston, she was retired at the pearance but will stride out well on end of last season and was in this afternoon's casier surface. foal to Mark Of Esteem.

Oaks Stakes (Lm 4f) Horse (Trainer) learns Of Yerse (H Cecil) 7-1 Siyadab (Saeed bin Suroor 10-1 uner Dance (M Stoute crown Of Light IM Stoute but however many excuses you lyafan (/ Gosden) find, it has been a wobbly start, and we're looking to put it back Sarayir (W R Hem) 16-1 20-1 hmak (H. Cecil) on an even keel this week." _20-1 20-1 Entice should start that kraine Venture (S Woods 14-1 process today, on a day which erashandek (A de Royer Dupre/Fr) offers punters any number of inice (Sae<u>ed bin S</u>uroor) teresting contests. Many will Each-way a quarter the odds, places 1, 2, 3 (Epsom, Friday, 6 June)

Derby Stakes (1m 4f)						
Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William Hill	Ladiproloss	Tob		
Entrepreneur (M Stoute)	4-5	evens	4-5	_ 5-4		
Revogue (P Chapple-Hyem)	<u>8-1</u>	7.1	9-21	7-1		
Sever Patrianch (J Dunlop)	7-1	<u>8-1</u>	8-1	7-:		
Yorkstaire (P Cole)	12-1	14-1	12-1	10-1		
Happy Valentine (Sased bin Surpor)	14-1	14-1	16-1	16-		
Fahris (B Hanbury)	<u>. 16-1</u>	16-1	18-1	16-1		
Stranya (W R Hern)	16-1	16-1	16-1	20-:		

RACING'S FUTURES MARKET

114 52 52 21 <u>71 81 61 81</u> 74 81 81 **10**1 101 91 81 91 81 91 101 101 <u>11-1 12-1 11-1 12-1</u> 12-1 14-1 16-1 14-1 16-1 14-1 20-1 16-1 Prospector's Cone 20-1 20-1 25-1 25-1 50-1 50-1 66-1 66-1 Each-way a 68th the outs, places 1, 2, 3 - Cosal, H - William Hill, L - Ladholes, T - Total

II ————				_
Horse	C	H	L	Ţ
Yantés Georgia	7-1	13-2	7-1	5-1
Double Splembur	7-1	13-2	6-1	7-1
World Premier	8-1	8-1	8-1	9-1
Cymno's Lad	8-1	9.1	8-1	<u>8-1</u>
Tumbleneed Ridgs	8-1	6-1	8-1	<u> 10-1</u>
Bolle Joseph	10-1	10-1	91	<u> 10-1</u>
Desiring Blue	91	91	11-1	1 <u>1-1</u>
Same	12-1	91	<u>10-1</u>	81
Hage Of Penu	12-1	14-1	12-1	<u>14-1</u>
Hot Returns	12-1	11-1	16.1	<u>12-1</u>
Charde Silett	12-1	16-1	<u> 161</u>	<u>14-1</u>
Creden GM.	14-1	<u> 16-1</u>	16-1	<u>18-1</u>
Westcourt Magic	16-1	18-1	161	<u>16-1</u>
Unconditional Love	201	<u> 25-1</u>	20:1:	<u>51</u>
Sea Demo	25-1	28-1	20-1	<u>35-1</u>
<u> Zabaji</u>	23-1	<u>25-1</u>	33-1	13-1
Each-way a 66h ú	re odds,	كالثلم	1,2,3	:
C-Coal, H-William	HE, L-L	adbrok	18,T-	lots

5.45: 1. THE FLYING DOCTOR (W Mc-Farland) 15-8 h fav; 2. Sterling Fellow 15-8 h fav; 3. Summer Villa 4-1. 7 ran. 11.

15, (G Belding), Totar £2,60; £1,60, £1,50, DF: £3,10, CSF; £5,29.

DF: £3.30. CSF: £5.29.
6.15: 1. NOT MY LINE (Mr A Sansomel 14-1; 2. My Young Men 11-4; 3. Nectanebo 8-1. 18 ran., 2-1 fav Youen. 8. 10. (Andy Morgan). Tota: £2-4.0; £4-50, £1.70, £3.90. DF: £70.00. CSF: £52.16. Tric:

5.70.50. 8.45: 1. NORDIC SPREE (A P McCoy) 3-1: 2. Luste Warm 7-1: 3. Cambo 7-2. 5 ran. 9-4 tay Mountain Path. 6, 74. (G I. Moore).

Tota: £3.30; £2.00, £2.60, DF: £13.30, CSF: £19.79. Non Runner: Moobakkr. WINDSOR

6.00: 1. SCATHERRRY () Holandi 9-2 ter. 2. Ludo 9-1; 3. Mad Alex 33-1. 18 run. 1½, 1½. (K Burke). Tota: £4.40; £1.80, £6.50, £5.60. DF: £73.50. CSF: £41.85. Tro:

£178.60 (part won, pool of £226.47 carried

e.30: 1. INSMIT NAN (A.CAN) 9-1; 2. Knos-no 7-1 co fev. 3. Dizzy Tilly 33-1; 4. Sad-ext 7-1 co fev. 20 ran. 7-1 co fev Africanado. 34; ½. (6 Lewis). Tota: 53.80: £2.00. £2.10, £10.10, £2.40. DF: £31.20. CSF: £60.42. Treast: £1.864.13. Tre: not won (pool of £413.65 carried forward to tomorrow). 7.00: 1. STRAT'S QUEST (5 Winsburth) 20-1: 2. Heatweep's Miles 33-1: 3. Sadiv Greens.

1; 2. Heavenly Miss 33-1; 3. Saily Green 20-1; 4. Will To Win 16-1, 25 ran, 6-1 (av

\$5.90, £10.00, £8.90, £2.80, DF: £584.40. CSF: £522.12. Thoses: £11,546.80. Tho: £1,266.90 (part won, pool of £1,249.10 carned forward to tomorrow).

rward 10 tomorrow). 6.30: 1 RIGHT MAN (A Clark) 9-1; 2 Kiros-

York 3,40

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places).

STALLS: fit & 6f - stand side; round course - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE; None.

Left-hand, U-shaped course. Flat and sides for the powerful galloper.

Course is Im S of caty on A1036. York station Im. ADMISSION: County Stand 522 116-25 year-olds 514); Tattersalls 512; Silver Ring 55 (OAPS 52-50); Course Enclosure S3 (OAPS 51-50). Under-16s free all enclosures. CAE PARK: 52, remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: R Cocil — 23 winners from 92 runners gives a success ratio of 25% and a loss to a 51 level state of 56.87; M Stonto — 33 winners, 114 runners, 20.2%, +£32.47; J Gooden — 18 winners, 90 runners, 20.5%, -£18.48; R Hannon — 15 winners, 139 runners, 10.3%, -£36.57;

LEADING JOCKETS: L Dettori — 40 winners, 164 rides, 24.4%, +\$55.40; Pat Eddery — 32 winners, 181 rides, 17.7%, -\$6.53; J Reid — 20 winners, 141 rides, 14.2%, -\$31.21; W E Swinhurn — 19 winners, 130 rides, 14.6%, +\$6.83.8.

BLINERERD FIEST TIME: Remand Stan Ivisored (2.06).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Angustan (2.06) won at Donester on Tuesday. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Jazz King (2.05) & Sanswar (3.40) have been sent 276 miles by Miss G Kelkeway from Whileombe, Dansel. OF YORKSHERE LIFE MAGAZINE HANDICAP (CLASS C)

∐4		£10,000 added 1m 4f Penalty Value £7,375	20.5
"			VINGS
1	12/00-	ZARALASKA (198) (D) (Finadas Stud) L Cumani 5 9 13R Phonesh (5)	7,86
ĪŽ	4000 4	ALDER C PER IN AU COND. LET M HERPY 5 Y 11	9 89
3			U 84
4		······································	1 40-
5			
6	40-002	REMANDI SUN (5) (CD) (Trever Barker) M Usher 5 9 1	4 DO
7	1.340-	HAZZ KIHU (286) D) (Minscome Manor Recing Gay Keleusy 4 9 1 Kifulon - Marchine (186) D) (Minscome Manor Recing Gay Keleusy 4 9 1 Kifulon - Marchine (18) (Minscome (18) Minscome (18) Minscome (18) (Minscome (18) Minscome (18) Minscome (18) (Minscome (18) Minscome (18	F 05
8	60-004	DURAD (27) (A Suides) D Smith 5 B 6	5 1/12
9	405	OURAD (27) (A SUGGES) () STIETS & B - LINES 4 B 4	9· 78
10	203-04	AUGUSTAN (7) (CD) (Pater) Jones S Gollings 6 7 10(Sed	9 01
11	00-431	AUGUSTAN (7) (CD) PROBE AFRICAN SUM (7) (Noel Fleether) M Chepthen 4 7 10 Procesy (5) :	1 88
12		_ 12 deciares -	~
	كالحدو مدرس	nt: 7st 10th. True handkap weight Augustan 7st 9th. African Sun 6st 4th.	
			1 Ar-
	(MOL 3º2	Angles 4, 4-1 Members 30s, 6-1 Mary Nag. 20-1 Sunn Hunter, 33-1 others	
1000	AN, 96 M	0 - 4 5 40 5 Street 10-1 (M Hoher) drawn (1) 11 (2)	

YORK

HYPERION

1996: Remaadi Sun 4 8 10 R Street 10-1 (M Usher) drawn (1) 11 ran FORM GUIDE

1.	<u> </u>	SHEPHERD RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £20,000 SHESTER 3YO fillies 1m 2f 85yds Penalty Value £13,442
11		
1 2	2615.4	RALI PARILISE (USA) (SA) (SA) (SA) (SA) (SA) (SA)
j ŝ	0114	THE FLY (243) (RF) (MES) A COURT OF THE FLY (243) (MES) A COURT OF THE FLY (243) (MES) A COURT OF THE FLY (243)
1 4	AAPE E	ME SIVER (26) IM J LB(25) 1 INC. 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
6	21-001 31060-	POLAR FUGHT (9) (The Mindeltom Partnership) in Johnson 6 13 MARKTHON MAND (2008) (John Saucherson & Sons) R Febry 8 12

126 Paul ASSAurt LOursey 812 Minimum weight: 8st 4th. This handkap weight hobe Dane 8st 3th.
BETTING: 5-1 Shrevani, 6-1 The Fly, 7-1 Delieh, 8-1 Shill Paradisa, Situs River, Noble Dane, Pole
10-1 life Boudostique, 14-1 Stone Valley, 16-1 Marelinon Mold. Love Has No Pelde, 20-1 oth
1996: Dombey 3 9 2 T Sprate 9-4 g for (6 Charlon) down (5) 7 cm
FORMS GUIDE

1996: Dombey 3 9 2 T Sprate 9-4 pt law (R Christon) down (S) 7 an FORMS GUIDE

A tough handicap to win, even more so by a colt having his tirst run of the season, but THE FLY appeals as being well capable of pulling it off. Barry Hills can win these handicaps with a fresh horse and The Fly should reliabl this extra quarter-more judged on the way he cut down the opposition to win a competitive nitrisery at Newcastle last August, He's gaine up 8th, but that was only his third start and the fester ground at Doncaster afterworks would have counted against him. The draw may not be that Important in a ten-furing rece but the made stall must still help Bloe River, the mount of Mick Rinane. He looked a tough coolde when deging 5st 7th an a Newmarket nursery last August and he reappeared in great form when peging back the leaders in a blanket hintsh at Newmarket (nace won by River's Source). Luca Cumani with have been womed by the handicap mark given to Silverani after the colt's debut accord to Happy Valeratine at Yarmouth. The son of High Estate had a nice breaze at Ripon 26 days ago and Silverani's rating is just a pound lower than the stable's Humounless, who went is oblose in this race last year. Polar Flight will like the ground and he edged out Silverani at Doncaster last November. Just a pound worse off, Polar Flight won in Cologne nine days ago and gass a 2th pull with Blue River on last month's Newmarket form. Pat Eddery will put up some overweight on Noble Dane, a filly who wents this ground and sharper for her Newbury runs you whene from the front (Bib higheyr today), there have been numerous winners from his next race, the Horns Hill Stakes, and he shaped well on his reappearance at Nottingham, which has thrown up subsequent winners in Chestal Newmarket, but even allowing for the fast ground at Accot, she dukm's exactly speaked well on his reappearance at Nottingham, which has thrown up subsequent vinners in Chestal Newmarket, but even allowing for the fast ground at Accot, she dukm's exactly speaked well o is in Crystal Hearted and Sandstone. Meaning count has provided at Ascot, she didn't exactly coa Sharp at Newmarket, but even allowing for the fast ground at Ascot, she didn't exactly Selections: THE R.Y

3	3.10	TATTERSALL'S MUSIDORA STAKES (GROUP 3) (CLASS A) £40,000 3/10 filles 1m 2f 85yds £26,048	Æ,	ij,
1	2111-6	REAMS OF VERSE (USA) (5) (X Abdullari) H Cecil 8 11	Pallon 9	112
2		ALCALAU (USA) (16) (BF) (Lores H Norts) P Kelleway 8 8		
3	221-10	CHLYPSO CRUNT (25) (Ms P Hants) P Hants 8 8	و جمالتا	114
4	2202-0	DAME LAURA (28) (A) Morrison) H Morrison 8.8	autter 10	11
5		ENCICE (FR) (204) (Godolphan) S bin Surger 8 B.		
6		EPOILE (FR) (199) (I M S Recing) P Chapple-Hyam 8 8		
7		PRENCH MOST (8) (Mrs A M Upsdell) C Britain 8 8.		
В		MOSSETTE (128) (Sheith Michammed) J Gooden B BR Co.		
9		SOCKETY ROSE (2022) (Charaley Park Stud) M Stocks 8 8		
10	136-43	VACABOND CHANTEUSE (5) (W R Green) T Etherington 8 8	Quin 2	97
		~ 18 declared —		
O.E.	THUR. E #	Daniel Of Marie 480 RG Public 7 4 Majorite 40 4 Cohora Court D	بم9 مكتمة	

BETTRIE: 5-4 Reases Of Venne, 100-30 Entice, 7-1 Noisette, 10-1 Rose, 20-1 Dame Laste, 25-1 Alcalett, Prench Mist, Vagahoud Chen 1996: Maguifolent Style 3 8 8 M J Kinare 5-2 (F Ceol) desert (3) 5 cm FORM GLIDE
The 1,000 Guiness form proved that Reseas Of Verse was indeed lucky to best her sta-

The 1,000 Guineas from proved that Reamas Of Verse was indeed lucky to best her stablements Sleepytime in Ascor's Fillier' Alife list backand. Drawn on the outside in the Guineas, Reams Of Verse was never looking the witner and was besten just over seven lengths into slath. Pat Eddey reported that he was pleased with the run and Reams Of Verse has the sorts quarter-mile in her favour today. She has only a small penalty to defy, but it may pay to chance Michael Stoute's SOCIETY ROSE, who, like Saturday's Denty Trail winner Sher Patrianch, is a son of Seddens' Hall. Firstly, Society Rose must be ament to be entered for the race after winning only a small meiden at Newcestle last backend. Secondly, the stable is on a high with Crown Of Light winning at Lingfield on Setunday, and then there's the booking of Mick Kinner. Entities has done it in the higher goade (best the cot. Fafris at Porteriact) and has been in Dubai since leaving Berry Hills. However, the Godolpin operation hearn't clicked yet this year and Endice may not relish this cut in the ground being a son of Sellark. Denelati's daugitar Calypen Grant should file the ground, something and didn't have in the Fried Darling at Newtony where they went slow early. Deams Laura cannot possibly reverse May Hill form with Reams Of Verse, while Etaille looks likely to fall short in the staying department. Noticethe imenged from an unplaced effort in a backend Haydock misden to win at Ascot a formight sego. John Gosden may rate her highly, but the form is die and this is a far stronger rece.

3.40		(CLASS B) £17,500 6f Penalty Value £11,376				
_	060-61	CYRNNO'S LAD (5) (CD) (M M Foulger) C Dayer 8 9 7K Fellon 1 103				
	032-02	DASHENG BLUE (14) (CD) (Mrs Duncan Allen) I Baking 4 9 6				
:		SEA DAVIE (24) (D) (Carst Gold Connections) P Harris 4 9 4				
L	5-3304	XIMG OF PERU (5) (D) (I. Fust) A Janus 4 9 3				
•	120220	CRETAN GET (13) (0) (TT Ceste) N Legrades 6 9 2A Daty (5) 4 B 100				
,	23240-	UNCONDITIONAL LOVE (227) (Mrs H Correy) M Jornson 4 9 2				
•	050-46	WESTCOURT MAKEC (24) (D) (IX Hodeson) M W Easterby 4 9 2 T Quilen 5 100				
ŀ	12342	DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (213) (CD) (BF) (Notishire Racing) P Felgate 7 9 1				
1	00-032	WORLD PREMIER (13) (D) (Mrs C E Botan) C Botan 4 9 1				
0	11501-	BOLLIN JOANNE (213) (CD) (Lady Westbrook) T Easterby 4 8 13				
1	31501	ZUHLAR (12) (Clayton Siger Partnershot D McCain 4 & 8				
2	200-00	SALMAR (13) (D) (Marchin Ltd) Gay Kelengry 5 8 8				
3	1303-5	HOH RETURNS (25) (D) (D F Alpon) M Bell 4 8 8				
4	03-360	TUNBLEMEED REDGE (12) (EF) (Tumblement Point) B Meeten 4 8 7 Pat Eddary 7 8 112				
5 .	020-00	CHARLE SELLET (13) (D) (John Silien) B Hills 5 8 7				
Б	0113-0	YORKOE GEORGE (26) (0) (M J Dawson) L Current 3 7 11				
- 18 declared -						
l de	rum weigi	ht; Bat, 7lb (SMO 7at 1.10b), True handicap weight; Chardie Siltert Bat,				
ΕIJ	NR 12-2	Double Splendour, 7-1 Yorkie George, 8-1 Cyreno's Lad, Tembleweed Risige, 9-1 Bollin				
-	na Wadi	Drawfor 10.1 Booking Stop, Scotter, 12.1 Blog Of Para 16.1 Charles Shieth Co.				

Joenne, World Premier, 10-1 Desking Sine, Sermer, 12-1 King Of Pers, 18-1 Charlie Si ton Gift, Hoth Returns, Westcoard Margic, 20-1 Sea Dane, Honorditional Love, 33-1 Zobal 1998; Jayarnpee 5 8 & Mortin Dayer (7) 11-2 (I Babing) drawn (2) 9 tan FORM GUIDE

CYRANO'S LAD reportedly prefers a small field, but he has stell one here so can run he CYRANO'S LAD reportedly prefers a small field, but he has stell one here so can run has own race on the outside. He's in top form after his ell-the-way win from How Long and Carranta at Newmarket, and should again account for King Of Penu, beaten over three lengths and now filb better. Yorkide George is tooky to assess taking on the seasoned performers. The promise was there for all to see behind Treasure Touch at Newmarket and he looked smart in the mud when winning a nursery by three lengths at Newbury. Deathing Blace might have run well against Averti in a conditions race at Beth a formight ago, but a few of these should prove too hardy for him. Hoh Returns looks sure to figure after a seasonel south to Repertory at Newbury. In fact, he's the one to beat on his close third to Atraf at Newmarket last June. The hardicapper has purished Double Splendoer, but he has won first time out for the past we seasons. Also, he gets a 48b put with Cyrano's Lad for a neck on their placed form behing Options Open here in September.

Selections: CYRANO'S LAD

4	10	AER LINGUS LEEDS-BRADFORD AIRPORT NOVICE STAKES (CLASS D) £8,000 added 240 fillies 5f Peneity Value £5,848
1	033436	EASTERN LYRIC (E) (D) (R Meredith) J Serry 9 0 K Darley 4 FILEY BRIGO (7) (D) (Designayor Racing) W Kemp 8 10 K Fellon 2
3	W33120	BALANÇE THE BOOKS (Michanned Sultall) R Harmon 6 8
4		CHILD PRODREY (R E Sangara) J Waits 8.8 Reid 5
5	2	DADIAN SEVER (8) (Actiony Andrews) M Channon 8 8
		- 5 declared -

BETTIMG: 5-2 Eastern Lyrlo, Indian Silver, 11-4 Balance The Books, 6-1 Child Prodigy, 8-1 Filey Brigg

Batance The Books is a 44,000grs yearling son of Elmsamul out of a half-sister to Kris and Diess. She's bred for a bit further and may have trouble coping with the experienced pair EASTERN LYRIC and laiding Silver. Eastern Lyric comes from a win at Warwick where she bucked down to action for a last-gasp win from the traiblicers Fast Tempo and Composition, who had shown some promise on their debuts. The 8b pensity is a problem, but Eastern Lyric is fancied to be good enough. Indian Silver was second to Hannan's newcomer Another Fantasy at Kempton after leading for four furlongs.

Selection: EASTERN LYRIC 4.40 NEWTON INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT STAKES (CLASS B) £12,500 added 3YO 1m 6f Penalty Value £7,560

Window Castle is burdened with an 8th penalty but he is not certain to like this rain-soft-ened ground. FLIRTING AROUND caught a real textar in the mud at Chester when second to John Gosden's Perfect Peradigm in a handlesp. That winner could be a future star. Zin-zard was a game second to Well You bance of Portefrect after making the numming in that ten-furlong melden but this distance could stretch his stamms. Selection: FLIRTING AROUND

12 OPPIG- SALLOW GLEN (702) (D) Dr P Patried 11 10 0 ... Dr P Patried

Minimum: 10st. Time weights: Callyny Gid St. 7th, Breaf St. 4th, Sakow Gien St. SETTANE: 3-1 Red Tel, 5-1 De Se Ware, 7-1 Mecado, Honeybed Wood, 8-1 Pouder Mankey, Chillin Caper, 14-1 Newlo, Spirit Layel, Breaf, 20-1 others

	RACING	RESULTS		
1	REDCAR	5.45: 1. THE FLYING Farland: 15-8 It lav; 2. S		
169 17-	2.15; 1. ONE SINGER (J Weaver) 7-2; 2. Rusty Babe 6-4 fav. 3. Miss Paci 11-2, 9	8 Jt fav; 3. Summer VIII		
15.	ran. 21/2, 4. (M Johnston, Middleham). Totac	15. (G Balding). Totar £2. DF: £3.10. CSF: £5.29.		
ed !	£5.00; £1.90, £1.10, £1.70, Dual Forecast: £8.60.	6.15: 1 NOT MY LEN		
	Tno: £4.80.	14-1; 2. My Young Men 1 8-1. 16 ran. 2-1 fav Yo		
(C)	2.45: 1. RIVER TERN (J Wester) 6-1; 2. Palo Blanco 10-11 fav; 3. Spotted Eagle	Morgan). Tota: £24.10 £3.90. DF: £70.00. C		
1		25.50. Dr: 2(0,00. G		

20-1. 15 ran. 1/. 21/L U Bradbey, Chepstow). Toker £9-50; £2-10, £1-20, £4.00, 0F: £6.30. CSF: £10.82. Tric: £51.90. 3.15: 1. ORBOLE (kim Triker) 50-1; 2. Mez-

3.15:1. ORIOLE (Pim Triver) 50-1:2. Mea-pramio 9-1; 3. Jack Flush 12-1; 4. Mer-phy's Gold 6-1. 17 ran. 9-2 (av Bagshot. 1½, 1. (Don Ennco Incisa, Middeham). Tota: 549-70; 56-60, 52-20. 53-00, 51-90. DF; 5218-00. CSF: £425-59. Tricast: £5,382-20. Yrc: £445.00 (part won. pool of £256-98 car-ned forward to York 3.40 today). 3.45: 1. JACK THE LAD (I Wester) 9-1; 3.45: 1. JACK THE LAD (I Wester) 9-1; 3.45: 1. Decklerant 6-1.12 Exit Sterret E. 2. Regal Repriment 5-1; 3. Epic Stand 5-4 fev. 13 can. 1%, 1. () Hetherton, Malton). Tota: £10.10; £4.10, £2.20, £1.10. DF:

Total: £10.10; £4.10, 26.20, 21.10. £24.50. CSF: £57.50. Treast: £92.20. Tre: 4.15: 1, BANBURY (J Carrol) 6-1; 2, Mo-marks 7-2; 3, Teamt 7-2, 12 ran. 9-4 (av Men-gaab (4th), 3, 3, (J Watts, Richmond), Totac 57-30; 52-20, 51-30, 51-50, DF: 514-30, 000; 500 at 27 rate 514-50

CSF: £28.73. Tho: £21.50. 4.45: 1. GYMCRAK FLYER (K Fellon) 15-8 fav; 2. La Dolce Vita 9-1; 3. Zelda Zonk 11-2 10 ran. 1/4, rik. (G Holmes, Pickering). Tota: £3.10; £1.10, £2.40, £2.30. DF: £12.90, CSF: £21.05, Tricast: £79.83, Tno:

Place 6: £30.73, Place 5: £24.47.

2.00: 1. DESERT INVADER (P Fessey) 2-1; 2. Bold Aristocraf 5-1; 3. Young Annabel 5-4 tov. 9 ren. hd, 5. (D Chapman, York), Totac 6A-20: £1.00, £1.80, DF: £4.90, CSF: £11.57, Inc. £1.60.

2.30: 1 KALAMATA (N Day) 9-1; 2. High 2.30: 1. KALAMATA (N Day) 9-1; 2. High Five 7-2 it fay; 3. Stalled 12-1; 4. Hesta Is Vieta 7-2 it fay, 18 ran. 12, hd. (J Glover, Worksop). Tota: £17-90; £3.30, £2.20, £2.30, £1.10. Dual Forcess: £62.50. CSP: £4.4.31. Tricast: £393.34. Tric: £62.50. 3.00: 1. MSSAW BOY (D Harrison) evens for; 2. Kormaseph 25-1; 3. Kustom Kit Klas-de 20.1. 9 ran. 8. 4. (M kuray). Sectol Far, 2. Komsneph 25-1; 3. Kustom Kir, Kise-sie 20-1. 9 ram. 8, 'A. (P Murphy, Bristol). Tota: £1.90; £1.10, £6.70, £2.20. DF; £57.30. CSF: £35.46. Tric: £161.80 [part Won, pool of £100.27 carried forward to York 3.40 roday). 3.30: 1. QUEENS STROLLER (J Brammit) 4.1-12. Best Montel 12.1-13. Dealed termes?

Girl 4-1 (av. 15 ran. nk, ½. (R Peacock, Tet-bury). Tote: £10.20; £5.60, £2.20, £1.70. DF: £96.90, CSF: £162.96, Tricast: £766.47. Tno: £150.00.

no: ±150.00. 4.00: 1. MALOZZA () F Egan) 12-1; 2. bariles Lad 7-4 (av; 3. Minetia 11-2. 13

4.00: 1. MAIDZA () F. 1891) 12-1; 2. Charles Lad 7-4 foy; 3. Minetta 11-2: 13 ran. nk, 1½. (P. Evens, Welshpool). Tota: £21.30: £8.10, £1.20, £3.60. DF: £18.40. CSF: £33.88. Tru: £28.90.
4.30: 1. PERSIAN FORTUNE (D Sweerey) 14-1; 2. Elienbrook 5-1; 3. Beechwood Quest 5-1, 7 ran. 5-2 fav Patsy Cutsyth (5th).

nl., 3. (W Turner, Sherborne). Tota: £13.40; £2.60, £2.20, DF: £78.80, CSF: £74.00. Win-ner bought in for 4,400 guinees 5.00; 1. EVEZIO RUFO (P Roberts) 14-1; 2. Kilmamestyra 6kf 9-2 fav. 3. Heighth of Fame 8-1. 14 ran. nk. 1½. (N Liumoden, Wolvernampton). Tota: £12.30; £2.40, £2.60, £2.10. DF: £32.30. CSF. £74.41. Tncast: £516.83. Tho: £122.40.

John Gosden's Tampre was third past the post in the Listed Prix de la Porte de Madrid (12f) at Chantilly yesterday. The race was won by Surgeon who took the honours from American import Yokohama, Earlier, Kaldou star won the one mile Listed Prix de Pontarme beating Bartez and Joe Naughton's Hever Golf ■ Trainer Ray Peacock emoyed a deing the consistent Queens Stroller

served change of fortune when sendtory in the France Fillies' Handican at Southwell yesterday. It was Peacock's first visit to the winner's enclosure since he scored with Tommy



) scotch

CHEPSTON 1.50 Apache Park 2.20 Thermal Warrior 2.55 Diwali Dancer 3.25 Earthmover 3.55 Honeybed Wood 4.25 Seek The Faith 4.55 Rupert Blues

indulating course with ron-in of 940yds. III Left-hand, undulating course with run-in of 240 yds.

III Course is on A400, Station (Cardiff - Glomester line) Im. ADMESTON: Cub 514: Tattersalls 510 (CAPS 55). CAR PARE: Free.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Minutann (1.50); Red Tel (3.55).

WINNESS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Lord McMarrough (2.55)

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003 WITHERKAY (18) P Nicholis 4 10 8.

2.20 WELSH BREWERS NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 41351P PREROBATIVE (18) G L Moore 7 11 10 _____ Bay Levis (8) V 424503 KARAR (14) (CD) R Rose 7 11 8 _____ D O'Salban

Minimum weight: 10st. The landings weight: Sozar Casanove Str 13th. SETTRES: 7-2 Nordic Valley, 9-2 Minimum Casile, Son Patrol, 11-2 Whose Wooder, 13-2 Prerogative, 7-1 Karar, Thornal Warrint, 16-1 others 2.55 MAY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) ## 10 HERBUEAN (87) (0) P R Westjer (0) 13 ____ II A Fizzjaciski
23/301_LIGO MOMINICOUGH (3) (0) J Menle 7 11 1 (7c) ______
30/001_DWALI DANICER (10) (0) M Por 7 10 11 _____ A P MeDay
21/813_EL DOM (27) 1730 M Por 5 10 10

-7 declared -BETTING: 6-4 Earthouver, 5-2 Corner Boy, 4-1 Comberhard Blees, 8-1 Ma-tur Gebo, 10-1 Sams Heritage, 25-1 Louisonne Traveller, False Economy 3.55 BARGAIN-BUY SELLING HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS G) £2,400 2m 110yds 3-0799 MORE BILLS F73) I Made 5 10 3 D J Burchell V 5-P02 HONE/RED WOOD (16) M Steppard 9 10 2 R Jahason 5-9065U SPART LEVEL (11) J R Paye 9 20 1 Mr S Dunget (7) 050-0 CALSARY GREL (21) R Bocker 5 10 0 B Powell

HEYTING: 2-1 Disnell Dencer, 7-2 & Doo, 5-1 Lord Michigary fact, 13-2 Hebridson, 7-1 Mins-Lors-And, 33-1 Bellet Roya

3.25 GREIG MIDDLETON LADIES HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £5,000 added 3m

4.25 HUE AND CRY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 3f 110yds 111151 RED BRANCH (11) (D) J Ning 8 10 3.... - 6 declared -BETTING: 5-4 Seek The Felth, 9-4 Red Branch, 11-2 James The First, 8-1 The Carrot Man, 14-1 Maggets Green, 20-1 Boro Vacation 4.55 END OF SEASON INTERMEDIATE NR FLAT

RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 2m 110yds 0-224 THE VALLAGE Way (24) D Nicholson 6 11 4R Job O THE BONDERS MOON (17) Mrs E Heath 4 10 13 D Gallasher - 9 declared -CETTING: 5-4 Rupert Blues, 9-4 The Village Way, 13-2 Just Bayard, 12-1 Irish Met, 16-1 Amothebembo, Manhelle, 25-1 others

Placepoir £42.20, Quadpoir £33.80. Place 6: £107.72, Place 5: £98.30. TOWCESTER

Newcastle the undisputed kings of the North-east

As if relegation from the Premiership were not enough of a crying shame, the followers of Middlesbrough and Sunderland were vesterday coming to terms with the realisation that neighbouring Newcastle United are in a different league perhaps twice over.

When the demoted pair go to Greater Manchester, it will be to Gige Lane and Edgeley Park instead of Old Trafford. The Valley, rather than Highbury, will be their destination in the capital. Meanwhile, Newcastle can spend the summer in eager anticipation of the draw for the European Champions'

ticipate if they survive August's qualifying round.

The previous campaign ended annid television images of tearful Timesiders. This time, as the Match of the Day credits rolled over shots of distressed Middlesbrough and Sunderland fans at Leeds and Wimbledon respectively, the Geordie faithful were agog on the Tyne. The runners up spot was an unexpected reward for the eightmatch imbeaten run Kenny Dalglish's side put together following the nadir of Monaco.

To point out the cyclical na-

League, in which they will par-extremes will be scant consolation on Teesside or Wearside, although Boro may yet gain the considerable consolation of the FA Cup and entry to the Cup-

Winners' Cup. Win or lose at Wembley, their chairman, Steve Gibson, is threatening High Court action to win back the three points docked by the Premier League for failing to fulfil December's fixture at Blackburn. The motivating force may be embarrassment masquerading as a sense of injustice: it bears repeating that even if Boro had sent out a weakened side at Ewood Park, and lost heavily,

Phil Shaw on the painful reality for two football clubs reduced to a twilight zone

they would have survived the success. Gibson, pointing to First Division cut.

Legal action, and the ill will it would generate, might prove to be another of Boro's expensive follies. For while they have spent barely half Newcastle's transfer outlay under Kevin Keegan - the undoubted role model for the Riverside revolution - Gibson and Robson have had relatively poor value for their £30m investment. Of their exotic imports, only Jumino has been an unqualified

the lucrative contracts they have signed, is adamant that they will leave only when Boro agree to let them go. However, they might be advised to cut their losses rather than have team spirit further undermined by the idiosyncrasies of Fabrizio Ravanelli or Emerson.

Compared with Gibson's claim about "men in grey suits" sending Boro down, Sunderland's man with grey hair was a model of dignified resignation on Sunday. But supporters must be wondering why Peter Reid spent less than a third of the 10m transfer kitty reportedly made available by his chairman, Bob Murray.

Trying to stay up on the cheap worked no better for Reid than buying abroad did for Robson. It says everything for Sunderland's inadequacies that their joint leading scorers. Craig Russell and Paul Stewart, amassed four goals each. As in their last one-season sojourn in the top flight, 1990-91, they nev-

ет won back-to-back games. After averaging gates of 19,000 this season (10,000 less

wildly over-sized for such attractions as Oxford and Reading. One journalist, judging many of the manager's recruits to be past their prime, has sug-gested they call it Jurassic Park Tonight, when Sunderland bid farewell to Roker Park in a friendly against Liverpool, it will be revealing to see who, if any-

crowd's disappointment. Ironically, after all their rivals' gloating over Keegan's exit, Newcastle have now confirmed their status as the North-east's premier club and also made a

one, bears the brunt of the

than Boro), the new 42,000-seat European breakthrough which stadium at Wearmouth looks even their chairman believed would have to wait. Sir John Hall admits he was ready to "write off" this season as Dalglish

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took stock of the situation. Not so long ago, Sir John re-called, Newcastle hoped to be in the European Super League which he believes will come "sooner than people think, with the next TV deal". Now, with "the right manager" in place, they expect to be in it. While we may not have won anything," he said, adding the words that must have hurt at

Middlesbrough and Sunder-

In it for the money and real thrills

The committee-room poopers failed to ruin the party on the paddock in rugby union's inaugural professional season, says Chris Hewett

was rugby at its most dispiriting: mean-minded, spiteful, unimaginative, unpleasant. Big boys indulging in silly little games, their self-importance inflated to barrage balloon levels. At times. Twickenham seemed like the most grotesquely ostentatious, irksomely grandiloquent kindergarten in Christendom.

Thankfully, things were a whole lot better on the pitch, where the players - remember them? - did everything in their power to make a success of the first fully professional season in the history of the European game. And successful it was, despite Cliff Brittle, Epruc, the RFU Reform Group and all the other besuited and benighted bores of the crashing variety.

After choking on the fetid air of the committee room, it was with the most profound relief that rugby's rank and file breathed deeply of the fresh air out there on the playing field where, at a conservative estimate, the positives of professionalism outweighed the

negatives by a zillion to one. OK, so the Pilkington Cup final had more whimper than bang about it; sure, it was painful to see Orrell, a decent and loveable club, wriggling helplessly on the wrong end of the financial hook; granted, too many gullible team managers found themselves railroaded into shelling out daft money for mediocre players who, by any reasonable yardstick, might have considered themselves lucky to be paid at all. On balance, though, a small price to cough up for the hypnotic experience of Real McCoy rugby at home and abroad. Much of it was stunning.

For all that, we ignore at our peril the hidden costs of a kaleidoscopic campaign. Take a look at Martin Johnson, Eric Miller, Simon Shaw, Rob Howley or any one of a dozen others who fly to South Africa with the Lions on Saturday and you will stare British rugby's most pressing problem square in the eyeballs. These men are exhausted: zonked, clapped out, dead beat. Some of them have played 30-plus front-line matches this season and the insanity of our fixture list is seen in its full perspective when you realise that those players are the fortunate ones. Others have played 40 games, a handful nearer 50.

More than anything, it was the unprecedented level of fatigue that accounted for Leicester's pragmatically tight-fisted Cup final performance at Twickenham at the weekend, a morale-deadening sight that brought a legion of anti-Tiger diehards out of the woodwork, their nostrils flaring with the scent of a told-you-so kill. Yet Bob Dwyer's assertion that his Midlanders could hold their heads high as English rugby's outstanding side was perfectly legitimate, for while Bath, Harlequins and Wasps, popular and hard-working league champions, enjoyed purple patches at different stages of the season, none approached the heights scaled by Leicester ei-

There was nothing coincidental about the fact that Leicester went two rounds further than any other English side in the Heineken Cup, a competition so rich in passion and adventure that the Five Nations' Championship appeared flat and un-

ther side of Christmas.



strong and capable were the Tigers as the tournament soared to its climax that only a force of nature could conceivably have denied them a first European title. When the force arrived, it wore the colours of Brive.

Here was something entirely unexpected: a side from the French heartlands, equipped with the full quota of skills and techniques associated with Tricolore tradition, yet capable of displaying both a serene calm and an iron discipline in the most pressured of circumstances. When Alain Penaud, David Venditti, Philippe Carbonneau and, most magnificently, Christophe Lamaison were given the opportunity to continue their fraternal musketeership in the French national side, the result was a

Grand Slam. The Heineken Cup threw up another quality outfit in the shape of Wasps, although the impact of their emergence was de-flected by early reverses against ly out of the competition, they regrouped around their captain, Lawrence Dallaglio, and put 70 points on a full-strength Toulouse side who, until then, had been everyone's title favourites. Few, if any, appreci-ated the full implications of that slaughter at the time but in hindsight, it amounted to an irrefutable declaration of the Lon-

doners' league title credentials. If the game relinquished some of its treasures during the last nine months - Brian Moore, John Hall and Courage Bitter may not have been to everyone's taste but rugby was enriched by its association with all three - it has failed to free itself from a number of exasperating, potentially ruinous impediments. First among these, of course, is the festering dispute between rival factions at the very heart of the Rugby Football Union, now

to be the subject of a judicial inquiry complete with Crown Court judge. Lock up the lot of them up, I say, and do as you like with the key. Equally pressing - well, almost - are the concerns over

gravy-train economics. Several leading English clubs have attracted investment packages of around £3.5m but, at current salary levels, that money will have evaporated by the end of

hister of the year Rob Hardwick (Coventry).

all things Lebestier, You may win the odd game at Kingsholm, but you don't win many lights.

So there was Rob, all on his lack Jones at Bishem Abbey while the rest of the Engsummed up the whole RFU-Epruc dispute:

Goodway favoured for job at Paris

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Andy Goodway is the favourite to become the new coach of Paris St-Germain later this week after John Monie's ruled himself out of contention for the job.

Monie, sacked as coach of Auckland Warriors two weeks ago, was sounded out over his availability for the Paris role, but has said that he does not want it. "It is not quite true to say that

he was offered the job," a Rugby League spokesman said. "He was one of a number of people sounded out to see whether they might be available." It is understood that Goodway,

another recent coaching casualry at Oldham, is ready to tackle the challenge. Paris have won just two matches this season - the second at Castleford on Sunday and their coach, Peter Mulholland, was dismissed last week.

The Wigan prop. Terry O'Connor, is out of the Ireland side to play France in Paris tonight. O'Connor injured his ankle in Wigan's victory over London Broncos on Friday night and is likely to be replaced by Leo Casey of Swinton.

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The French side includes six players from Super League ~ four from Paris, plus Wigan's Gael Tallec and Jean-Marc Garcia of Sheffield. Castleford, bottom of Super

League, without a point from their 10 games, are completing the signing of the Great Britain tour winger, Jason Critchley, from Keighley. Adrian Flynn, the Great Britain Under-21 centre, is to move in the opposite direction in part exchange. Warrington have told St Helens that they have no intention of selling their international

back-rower, Paul Sculthorpe. The game in South Wales is being relaunched with the es-tablishment of a rugby league academy in Cardiff as the focus of a development programme

in the Principality.
The code there has been badly hit by the collapse of the professional club in Cardiff after they were denied a place in Super League, but the League's development executive, Tom O'Donovan, said: "We still regard South Wales as having massive potential for both rugby league and Super League.

Contract chaos threatened by Murphy dispute

No one ever talks about Rob Smith, least of all Rob Smith, However, it is a trusm

of all Rob Smith. However, it is a trusm to say that Wasps could not conceivably

Coach of the year

Rob Smith (Wasos).

PAUL STEPHENS

The Rugby Football Union. missed in an international. riven by discontent and factionalism over its handling of the television contract negotiations with BSkyB, could soon become embroiled in another damaging dispute, this time over its own player registration regulations.

At the centre of the controversy is Chris Murphy, the West Hartlepool second row who wants to sign for Sale, and his agent Mike Burton, the Gloucester-based entrepreneur, whose place in rugby record

books was firmly established when, in 1975, he became the first England player to be dis-

RFU's refusal to deregister Murphy constitutes a restraint of trade and he has threatened legal action. If Burton's claim succeeds, the RFU's attempt to manage a regulated transfer market could be in tatters.

Murphy decided to leave West once they were relegated from the Courage top flight. He chose Sale, who have agreed to pay £45,000, ahead of Newcas-

UK BANKS AND BUILDING SOCIETIES -

the RFU will not do until West release Murphy from his con-Burton alleges that the tract which has almost two years to run.

"In the first place," Burton said, "Murphy only has a service rugby might have to do the contract, which contains a period of notice. West were in faced with utter chaos." breach of that contract anyway, when they failed to maintain Murphy's regular salary payments. So, having given West one month's notice, he is now a free agent:
"But this isn't about con-

tle, but before he can move the tracts, it is about the legister him as tion regulations. I see players'

a West player before register-ing him for his new club. This most of them aren't worth the paper they're written on.

In the aftermath of the Bosman transfer ruling, the Premier League are having to rewrite all their contracts and same, or very soon we will be

The RFU will not agree to deregister a player if he is in dispute ~ if, for instance, he owes his club money or fails to return a club car. Neither will it do so if there is an unserved period of a contract remaining.

"This is absurd," Burton said.

"A contract between a club and

a player has nothing to do with tutes a restraint of trade under standing is plain daft. We have the RFU. I have no wish to go to war, but they must first abide

woning-case passion from the discussions fee pack, a dozen minities of injury time and a blood-red smattering of violence throughout. Gloucester won with an 50th-minist Phil Greening by and a Stan-sky-esque touchtine conversion from Mark Mapletoft, Klass goodbye to the bi-tie you. There

by their own regulations. "It says clearly in the RFU's handbook that any player holding registration with a club may. upon written application to the registrar, deregister from that club. The player will cease to hold registration 30 days from

the receipt of his application.
"Murphy wrote to the RFU on I May, so he is free to register for another club on 1 June. By refusing to accept his appli-cation, the RFU have violated Article 48 of the Treaty of Rome. Murphy's case consti-

RFU so by letter and informed them that I will take legal action unless they deregister him."

The RFU has already said that it would be better if there was some uniformity contracts. However, most leading clubs use their own contracts, which are approved by the RFU.

Andrew Hindle, the chairman of West's board of management, said: "Murphy has a contract, which the RFU has seen and we believe to be valid," he said. "For Burton to suggest that Murphy is tree to move while two years of his contract are out-

European law. I have told the no intention of standing in Murphy's way. We are willing sellers, Sale are willing buyers. and things have been agreed."

next season. It does not take

Gordon Brown to work out that

such flagrant expenditure will

end in tears and if the English

Rugby Partnership, the newly

constituted body now running

the top end of the domestic

game, is worth even a sprinkling

of salt, it will force those under

its jurisdiction into some form

of wage-capping agreement. Playing standards will cer-

tainly accelerate next season, es-

pecially with Richmond and

Newcastle giving the inaugural

Allied Dunbar Premiership an

intriguing and competitive

edge, but the fixture madness

threatens to undermine pro-

campaigning all year for less

rugby rather than more, held a

round of their national cham-

pionship last Sunday and, in all

but one of the eight matches, a

single score separated the sides.

Now that is quality. Are we too

proud to admit that our Conti-

nental brethren may be on the

The French, who have been

gress at every turn.

With the new season 14 weeks away, Murphy is in no hurry to sign, knowing that he can expect more favourable personal terms from Sale, if they are not obliged to pay a fee.

Meanwhile, the RFU must decide whether to take seriously Burton's threat of legal action or avoid it by deregistering Murphy. Either way, some redrafting of the registration rules and the acceptance of uniform contracts seems inevitable.

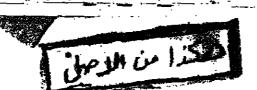


The amount in posses won by a punter who see 1988 - placed a 15 belong to 1988 - placed a 15 belong the bookmakers, Cotal St. Rangers winning nine sonsecutive Scottish Football League titles. The odds were 150-1 and he collected his winnings yesterday.

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Rusedski misses his chances

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JOHN ROBERTS reports from Rome

It could be argued that Britain made a reasonable start to the men's championships at the Italian Open yesterday, given that the condition of Greg Rusedski's wrist was the chief

Rusedski, although defeated by Albert Portas, a Spanish qualifier, 7-6, 7-h, at least had the consolution of experiencing no physical pain. All being well. he will have future opportunities to advance beyond the opening round.

Likewise, we should be grateful at this stage if Tip. Henman's elbow proves equal to the test today, regardless of the outcome of his ilst match for two months. He, too, plays a Spaniard, and the British No 14 seed is well aware that Roberto Carretero is far more dangerous on clay courts than a current world ranking of No 334 Suggests.

Rusedski, playing for the first time since retiring hurt during the St Petersburg tournament in March, was disappointed that his form wavered each time he was

on the point of taking control.

After breaking for 5-3, he lost his serve to love when the opening set beckoned and was then unable to convert a set point in the tie-break, at 7-6, stretching to make a volley which flew over the baseline. To compound maters, Rusedski hit a smash into he net from close range for 7-9 on Portas's third set point.

The Spaniard saved two break points at 4-4 in the second set, going on to win the tiebreak, 7-4, after Rusedski had recovered from 2-4. "I was pleased with the way I served he delivered 14 aces, but the big points were terrible," Rusedski said. "Usually I fan-

cy myself in two tie-break sets." Portas, at No 67 ranked 28 places below Rusedski, frequently picked off his opponent's rushes to the net. As Rusedski pointed out, Portas reclay, including victories against pect to need a kick-start.

Marcelo Rios and Alberto Be-

As a reward for his efforts. Portas will play the winner of today's contest between Pete Sampras and Jim Courier. While Portas and Rusedski duelled on No 2 Court yesterday, Courier practised on an adja-

cent court.
It was while playing Sampras in the final of the San Jose event in February that Rusedski had to retire because of the wrist injury. "It would have been nice if I could have got a re-match with Sampras," Rusedski mused.

Rusedksi was not the only mighty server to suffer yester-day. Australia's Mark Philippoussis was eliminated by Karim Alami, of Morocco, 6-2, 6-0 - a far cry from Philppoussis's clay-court triumph in Munich last month. He said at the time that there was no reason why he could not beat anyone he played against, "no matter what surface I play on". Not on this occasion.

Alamiwas the first player to heat Pete Sampras in 1994, when the world No 1 started his year in Doha, Qatar.

Richard Krajicek, the Wimbledon champion, began brightly in spite of the effects of a flu virus. The Dutchman defeated Diego Nargiso, an Italian wild card, 7-5, 6-3.

Thomas Muster, the holder of the Italian title for the past two years, eased past Marzio Martelli, another home player with wild card, 6-3, 6-2, Muster's win enabled him to balance his clay-court record for the season. 4-4, after a vulnerable start to the campaign on a surface he usually dominates.

"You can't expect me to win every clay court tournament like I have in the last two years," the former world No 1 said. Asked if his sluggish form on clay had been an indirect result of his success on concrete courts earlier in the year, with tournament wins in Dubai and Key Biscayne, he paused before saying, "Maybe it's

a question of motivation..... With the French Open less than a fortnight away, Muster cently had a run of 19 wins on is the last player one would ex-



Graf to play at Eastbourne

Steffi Graf, the seven times Wimbledon champion, yesterday confirmed that she will play in the Direct Line grasscourt tournament in Eastbourne from 16 to 21 June, which takes place the week be-

fore Wimbledon . "I'm going to play East-bourne now," Graf said as she began her comeback in Berlin. "It's on my list. I would have played there last year if I hadn't had a problem with my knee."

Exactly 100 days after being knee injury, Graf was back, day or tomorrow in her come- ing the winner's trophy.

slamming the ball in her first competitive match since being dethroned by Martina Hingis as the world No 1.

Graf was playing in a doubles match on the opening day of the German Open, and was clearly happy to be back in action. The moment I stood on the court and hit the first ball in

training was unbelievably won-derful, "Graf, 27, said. "I knew the reason why I've worked these months.

Graf will face Chanda Rubin consigned to the sidelines by a of the United States either to- she fought back tears when lift-

back singles match as she tries to win her 10th title in Berlin. Graf's says that playing again has nothing to do with trying to displace Hingis from the top of

rankings. The two were expected to meet here, but Hingis fell off a horse and withdrew.

tion. Sorry can't help you with that," Graf said, and laughed. Graf's relaxed mood was in sharp contrast to last year, when her father was still jailed on charges of tax evasion and

"Being No 1 isn't a motiva-

final 13 overs

Robinson's rash charge hands victory to Surrey

Cricket

DAVID LLEWELLYN reports from The Oval Surrey 310-8 v Sussex 299 Surrey win by 11 runs

Ian Salisbury found a gold lining under the clouds here yesterday. The sometime England leg-spinner helped Surrey to topple his former county colleagues in a tight finish to their Benson and Hedges Cup match with a devastating spell of four wickets in six balls.

from Paul Jarvis, who thrashed a six and two fours in successive deliveries from Ben Hollioake

Somerset 172-4 v Middlesex

The wretched weather contin-

ues. Somerset, who were put in

to bat, began their innings at 11

o'clock and, after four inter-

ruptions for rain, which added

up to almost five hours, were

still six wickets and 12 overs

from ending it at 6.40 when the

weather brought the players in

The first hold-up came after

eight minutes, by which time

Mark Lathwell had been caught

at second slip off James Hewitt.

Simon Ecclestone soon fol-

lowed, yorked by Hewitt. But

there was then a good stand of

for the last time.

HENRY BLOFELD

reports from Lord's

in the penultimate over, but a was Salisbury took the award. moment of foolishness by the last man, Mark Robinson, who went for a single when all he had to do was stay put and leave the Yorkshireman to hit the dozen runs needed for victory.

The ball struck Robinson's pads and, distracted by the Jarvis most certainly did not want. Alistair Brown, who had already had a direct hit to run out Keith Greenfield earlier in the innings (a throw from 25 yards), made no mistake from a lot nearer. It was a shame. Jarvis had been well on course for the Gold Award, thanks to

108 in 140 balls between

Michael Burns and Peter Bowl-

er, both of whom cut and drove

in fine style.
Burns' 50 came in 72 minutes

with five fours and one six - a

cover drive into the new Mound

Stand - off Angus Fraser. He

then tried to pull a ball from

Fraser which was too far up and

he was caught at mid-on. Fras-

er bowled an excellent spell with

his usual immaculate control.

taking 1 for 23 in his 10 overs.

another stoppage in 75 balls with

seven fours. Soon after that, Graham Rose was caught at first

slip trying to run Jacques Kallis

to third man and, after Richard

Harden had pulled Kallis for six,

bad light and rain put everyone

Bowler's 50 arrived after yet

There was a brave flourish

loud appeal for leg before, the batsman set off for a single that his haul of four wickets. As it

Stop-start for Somerset

and Surrey go into tomorrow's quarter-final draw, Even before Jarvis's effort Sussex had made a fist of it and

looked to be well on the way to victory. Neil Taylor thumped 67 in even time. Mark Newell hit his second successive half-century in the competition again at a run a ball, and Rajesh Rac also smacked a useful 61.

But Salisbury first applied the brakes, then broke Sussex hearts as he bowled Newell, Bill Athey and Nick Phillips before having Amer Khan leg before

attempting a sweep.
But the clouds had not been confined to the skies in south London. Alec Stewart was involved in a heated exchange with the umpire, Graham Burgess, when Taylor, on 58, was given not out after an appeal for a catch behind. At the end of Jason Ratcliffe's over. Burgess waited for Stewart to reach the other end then spoke to him.

Afterwards Stewart explained: "The boys started baying a go at the batter. I said settle down, never have a go at the batsman. The umpire [Burgess] had a pop at me. A couple of words were exchanged. But after I explained that I was trying to calm the situation down he apologised.

The matter will not be taken further and Stewart had the added satisfaction of scoring his third half-century in five B&H outings this season. His England team-mate Graham Thorpe was top scorer with a wellpaced 78 and the pair's form will

Yorkshire secure home draw

Round-up

Yorkshire guaranteed themselves a place in the quarterfinals of the Benson and Hedges Cup, and a probable home draw, with an emphatic 184-run victory in their Group A match against the Minor Counties at

Headingley yesterday. Yorkshire scored 309 for 5 from their 50 overs with Anthony McGrath compiling a career-best 109 not out. Facing 85 deliveries, he struck three sixes and eight fours and dominated the closing stages with 79 of the 112 runs scored from the

Wayne Larkins put on 63 from 13 overs but Craig White took three wickets in nine deliveries and then the last seven wickets tumbled for 20 runs.

An unbeaten century by the Australian left-hander Matthew Hayden guided Hampshire to their first win of 1997 at the 11th time of asking in all competitions. The battle to avoid the wooden spoon in Group C saw the county strugglers overcome the spirited challenge of the British Universities by seven wickets with nine balls to spare.

Set 285, Hayden finished on 120 not out with support coming from Giles White (56) and Robin Smith (45 off 44 balls) to

For the students, Umer Rashid hit 82 off 100 balls and Will House blasted 37 off 21 deliveries.

Jeremy Snape took 5 for 32. including three wickets in eight balls, to help Northampton-shire beat Leicestershire by 52 runs and join their victims as qualifiers from Group B. Surrey's win against Sussex

means that even if Gloucestershire reach their target of 240 against Kent at Bristol today they cannot reach the quarterfinals. When rain curtailed Gloucestershire's reply they had reached 25 without loss off 4.2 overs.

There was no play at Derby

Conner enters the fray for America's Cup

With 48 hours to tomorrow's deadline for challenges for the America's Cup in New Zealand in 2000, the man who has made winning and losing the tropby his life's business, Dennis Conner, has again thrown his hat in the ring, writes Stuart Alexander.

As losing defender to the Ki-wis in 1995, he will again rep-resent the Californian city of his' posit has been paid but no de-tails of any major backers have been announced. It is thought, birth, but instead of competing however, that Conner may on on behalf of the San Diego Yacht Club, Conner has mount-Association.

The \$200,000 (£125,000) de- September.

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 6 Texas 8 De-troit 11 Cleveland 3: Battmore 9 Sestile 5; NY Yankees 3 Kensas City 2; Chicago White Sox 8 Caldend 5: Milweukee 5 Anahem 2; Minhesota 2 Toronto 3.

MATRONAL LEAGUE: Floride 6 Houston 3;
Phitadetphia 3 Colorado 1; Pittsburgh 2 At-lanta 8; St Jours 4 NY Metis 6; Ios Angeles 3 Montres 6 (in 10); San Diego 5 Cinicinnati 4 (in 11); San Francisco 11 Chicago Cubs 5.

Basketbaß EASTERN CONFERENCE Semi-fizais: New York, 77 Miami 73 (New York lead bast-of-ser-en series 2-1); Adentis 80 Cricago 89 (Crica-go lead bast-of-seven series 3-1).

WESTERN CONFERENCE Semi-final: Seat-te 106 Houston 110 (or) (Houston lead best-of-seven series 3-1). Football

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PLAY-OFF FIX-TURES: Flest leg: Set 17 May: Hibernian v Airdrie (3.0). Second leg: Thu 22 May: Air-drie v Hibernian (7.30). WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL (Portland, Ore-gon): United States 6 England O.

GRE V HOUSTIGHT 11 1-307,

WOMEN'S ENTERMATIONAL (Portland, Onegon): United Status 6 England 0.

SUMENA'S LARE RESILUES: Spanish League:
Adesico Madrid 2 (Karanka og 14, Kao 73)
Antietic Bibso 1 (Genta 29): Tenenfe 2 (Prila 5. Johanovác pen 80) Oviedo 2 (00 33, 63);
Sporting Gáon 2 (Barigo 50, 78) Celta Vigo
1 (Gudel; 65): Seville 5 (Tarasa 2, Mart 12,
54, Loren 88, Badesta 90) Hercules 0; Compossile 2 (Penev 15, Sab Ba) Rayo Vallecano
1 (Castilo 43): Zangoza 1 (Poyet 76) Espanyol
1 (Castilo 43): Zangoza 1 (Poyet 76) Espanyol
1 (Castilo 43): Zangoza 1 (Poyet 76) Espanyol
1 (Balelos BS); Real Sociedad 2 (Idalez
65). De Peño 76) Racing Sormander O. Belgen Languer: Endiracht Asist 2 Loveren 0;
Germinal Eigen 4 Anderlacht (Last 2 Loveren 0;
Germinal Eigen 4 Anderlacht (Last 2)
3 Carde Bruges C. World Cap Concencia sone
finali quand (San Jose): Cossa Reca 3 (Wanchope 32, 70, Owedo 69), Januaca 1 (Williams
60), Major Langues Socoer: Columbus Crew
2 Aliau Vendellaru Inceru Mermo Stats 5 () er: Columb

Golf

SPORTING DIGEST 80; J Croses (Arg) 71.69 77.81; C Montgamene 70 71.76 81, 298 M Jorgon (Swe) 74.70 76 79; S Allan (Aus) 72 72 76 79, 301.6 Ernes-son 71.71 79.80, 302 D Lee 73 71.78 80, 303 I Mosey 73 70.80 80.

5.61: 20 T Watson 5.60.

EIROPEAN ORDER OF MERIT: 1 8 Langer (Gen) £247.681; 2 1 Woosnern (Wei) £186,453; 3 E Es (SA) £157,047; 4 J M Olssahel S9) £148.684; 5 R Green (Aus) £127,442; 6 M A Mertin (Sp) £126,728; 7 M Jernes (Frg) £114,873; 8 L Westwood Eng £111,631; 8 P Harrington (M) £97,039; 10 Broadward (Eng) £155,599; 11 C Whitelaw (SA) £14,096; 12 E Romero (Jng) £1,136; 13 P Michael (Eng) £79,329; 24 D Clarke (N M) £74,098; 15 [Gerido (Sh) £71,914; 16 M Jorzon (Swe) £70,306; 17 J Coceres (Ang) £70,131; 18 J Van de Velde (Fr) £58,876; 19 T Bjorn (Den) £64,529; 20 W Riley (Aus) £63,648.

ATLANTA CLASSEC (Delotte, Georgia) Lead-

19 19(m) (1911) 29:154. 25 V N New Year 1563,648.

ATLANTA CLASSIC (Drainth, Georgia) Leading fiscal scores (IDS unless state(0): 274 S McCarron 70:69 66 69, 277 L Januar 69 70 70 68: B Henninger 70 71 68:65; D Duvel 66 66 73 72. 278 H Sutton 69 74 68 67; G Norman (Jus.) 70 67 73 68; N Phics (Zhni 66 67 75 70; D Toms 69 68 70 71, 280 K Suthertand 71 71 70 68; B Fleisher 70 72 70 68; D Pooley 64 70 77 69; J Hsan 69 71 71 70 72 N 68; D Pooley 67 70 77 69; J Hsan 68 71 71 70; A Magge 70 71 68 71, 282 K Fergus 71 69 73 69; R Freeman 70 74 69 69; S Gump 69 71 70 72; K Gibson 73 69 68 72; B Estes 68 74 68 72, 283 K Perry 70 73 72 69; B Tway 72 68 74 69; L Miza 71 70 72 70; T Perrikon 70 69 73 71; G Day 69 72 69 73; B Glasson 69 70 69 75.

SARA LEE CLASSIC (Machille, Fens):

71 70 72 77: Perfises 70 69 73 71: 5 Lay. 69 72 69 73; B Gisson 69 70 69 75. SARA LEE CLASSIC (Headwille, Tenny): Landing timal scores (US smileses stating): 207 77 Myers 70 67 70, L Keen 69 72 66, N Haney 67 72 68 (Myers won on mith payoff hole): 208 D Egsball 71 69 68. K Robotrs 70 66 72; 210 D Dommann 71 71 68, J Stephenson 70 72 68; 211 K (Rigens 73 72 66, E Whooff 71 74 66, A Read 73 69 69, A Dibos 72 69 71, H Affredson (Swe) 66 74 71, K Sakii 70 69 72. FORD ORDER OF MERTI (ES or Irl unless states; 1 M Sotton £13,500; 2 K (Durn (Den) £9,135; 3 5 Waugh (Lus) £6,300; 4 D Barmard, 1 Febricous), H Wadsworth, AM Knight (Aus) £2,133; 10 M Horth (Swe), J Mills Rus) £2,133; 10 M Horth (Swe), J Mills Rus) £2,133; 10 M Horth (Swe), P Stemers, Swe), M Murray £1,668. SOU HEBM CUP STANDENSE: 1 Sutton 20pts, 2 Orum 12, 3 Barmard, Pairchagh, Waddsworth 6.5, 6 Jonesson 3.5, 7 Hjorth, Sterner, Murray 0.66.

Olympics The British team will use the Australian Gold Coast as their training camp for the Millennium Olympics in Sydney, the battle Olympic States Coast Australia (1997)

Rugby League Salford's Super League match at home to Warrington on Sunday, June 29, has been brought forward to Friday, June 27, lock-off 7.30. AUSTRALIAN SUPER LEAGUE Contenbury Buildogs 48 Hunter Manners 36.

Rugby Union England have called up the lock forwards Dave Baldwin and Danny Grawcock for

the Auckland-born Chris Dicked the challenge through the son, who will co-skipper for lesser-known Cortez Racing him the Toshiba entry in the Whitbread Race starting in their four to Argentina. They replace the injured John Fowler and Martin Bavileid.

continue his association with

hijured John Fowler and Martin Bayfield.
WORLD SQUAD by Wasps, 24 May, Twickenhum?: P Sellis (Fr. capt), D Campase (Aus),
E Rish (NZ), W Sereni (Fil), L Arbizu (Arg),
T was Resuberg (SA), J Klawan (AZ), G Bashop (NZ), Y Yoshikis (Ispan), Forwards: W
Obshengaus (Aus), J Deston (SA), A Benszzi
(Fri, B Swart (SA), J Joseph (NZ), H Strydom (SA), O Roussat (Fri, D Therom (SA), F
Pleaser (SA), J-M Gorzados (Fri, N Popplewell (IT).

Babsathans (CA) (All D diffeterent Swapes URIANS SQUAD (Hiddlesex Se:

Spooker

DR MARTENS EUROPEAN LEAGUE: Sunday's late results: I Higgins (Sco) drew with SS Davis (Eng) 4-4; S Hardry (Sco) drew with R O'Sullivan (Eng) 4-4.

MEN'S ITALIAN OPEN (RO MENTS (TALIAN OP'EN (Rome) First resent.

T Master (Aur) ti M Marcelli (III 6.3 6-2; M
Rosset (Swrt) tr J Gohrand (Fr) 7-5 6-4; M
Koseliner (Gee) tr J Sork (US) 7-6 6-4; C
Woodruff (US) to D Princell (Gee) 6-3 6-2; E
Alvarez (Sp) to F Clevent (Sp) 4-6 6-3 6-3; K
Rejicek (Neth) int D Margison (III 7-5 6-3; K
Aleans (Mac) to M Prülopousess (Vass 6-2 6-0;
A Portas (Sp) to G Russedski (CER) 7-6 7-6; A
Boepsch (Fr) tr A O'Brien (US) 7-6 6-4; J
Slemmarik (Meth) bl. J Tarando (ISS) 7-5 6-3;

F Sentoro (Fr) th of Furion (10 6-4 6-1; A Correctia (Sp) bit H Arazi (Mor) 6-0 8-3; C Ruud (Nor) it F Fetterisin (Den) 6-4 7-5; M Lusson (Swel) bit W Ferreira (SA) 4-6 7-5 7-6; C Proline (Fr) bit B Black (2m) 6-4 6-3.

WOMEN'S GERMAN OPEN (Bearlin) Frest mand: J Wiesner (Aut) bit L Courtos (Bell 6-0 6-2; R Dragomir (Rom) bit N Zereva (Bell 7-6 6-2; M Sanchez (Lorenzo (Sp) bit H Nagyons (Sa) 6-2 4-6 6-3; C Rubin (US) bit P Hy-Boutais (Car) 7-5 6-2; G Pizzichira (Baly) bit P Surez (Aug) 7-6 4-6 6-1; S Appelmans (Bel) bit Y Malasonos (Bas) 6-2 7-6; M Sema (Sp) bit T Periona (Rus) 6-2 7-6; M Sema (Sp) bit T Periona (Rus) 6-3 6-4; M-J Ferrandoz (US) bit F Perietti (II) 6-3 6-4; M-J Ferrandoz (US) bit F Perietti (II) 6-4 3-6 6-1.

AMERICA'S RED. CLAY CHAMPPONSHIP AMERICA'S RED CLAY CHAMPIONSHIP (Coral Springs, Fish: J Stollenberg (Aus) bt J Bjorkman (Swe) 6-0 2-6 7-5.

User a symmetry, Part J Societatives (Juny) for J Bjorkman (Sive) 8-0 2-6 7-5.

LTA SPRENG SATTELLTE MASTERS (Cardiff) Prest reache? P Longerdt (Den) bit N Weel (GB) 6-1 6-2; D Rodro (US) it C Beacher (GB) 7-5 6-2; M Lee (GB) it P Hand (GB) 3-6 7-6 6-2; M Bot (Neth) it S Barron (Ira) 6-1 6-3.

AIP RANNONES: 1 P Sorrons (US) 5, 1187ts; 2 M Crong (US) 3,704; 3 Y Muser (Au) 3,281; 4 Y Kadankov (Rus) 3,006; 5 R Negical (Neth) 2,2821; 6 G karneave (Cro) 2,710; 7 T Enquest (Swe) 2,172; 8 C Moy (Sp) 2,143; 9 M Ross (Chiel 2,072; 10 A Costa (Sp) 1,930; 11 W Fentrers (SA) 1,866; 12 F Marchille (Sp) 1,841; 13 B Becker (Ger) 1,765; 14 T Morron (US) 1,673; LT A Compan (Sp) 1,260; LB A Desassings (Sp) 1,519; 17 A Moderdov (Un) 1,608; 13 T Herman (GB) 1,546; 19 M Philopoussic (Au) 1,556; 20 M Rosser (Sen) 1,535; WIX RANNONGS; 1 M Hings (Swi) 4,674pts. poussis (Augl 1.536; 20 M Rosser (Surg) 1.533; WTA ROUNDINGS; 1 M Hongs (Swr) 4.674ps; 2 S Gard (Gen) 4.175; 3 M Seies (US) 3.656; 4 J Rosentra (Cr. Rep) 3.313; 5 L Davenport-(US) 2.910; 8 A Seachter, Vecaro (St) 2.804; 7 A Huber (Gen) 2.701; 8 C Martinez (Sp) 2.6325; 9 I Mapple (Cr.) 2.514; 10 A Ocetzer (SA) 1.91; 11 M Perce (Ph) 1.959; 12 K Habsudova (Sto) 1.842; 13 1 Spirica (Rom) 1.765; 14 M J Fermandez (US) 1.703; 15 B Schultz-McCarrby (Neth) 1.636; 15 B Paulus (Augl 1.578; 17 K Po (US) 1.460; 18 J Wester UD) 1.359; 19 E Unitroversa (Rus) 1.331; 29 S Appelmans (Rei) 1.280.

ner (Aut) 1,359; 19 E Lichtowser 20 S Appelmans (Bel) 1,260,

Benson and Hedges Cup

British Univs v Hampshire RUTISH UNIVERSITIES

P Hodgson c Udal b Stephenson ____ l / Chitton c Aymes b Stephenson A Ford c Udel b Renshaw ...,....

7-272 8-284.
Did not bet: P S Jones, S A J Boswell.
Budling: Renzins 9-0-54-2; Maru 10-1-35-0; Stephenson 10-0-47-2; James 3-0-18-0; Udal 8-0-55-1; Whiteker 1-0-15-0; Hayden 9-0-45-2.

HAMPSHEE
G W White at Bailey b Jones
M L Hayden not out
W S Kendail low b Jones
W S Kendail low b Jones

Gioncestershire v Kent BRISTOL: Gioucestershire, with all their wickets standing, require 215 rum off 45.4 overs to beet Kent, Today: 11.0. Kent won toss

KENT
TR Ward b Smith
M V Fleming c Alleyne b Young
A P Welts c Lynch b Alleyne
G R Condrey of Russel b Daws
N J Llong run Out

GLOUCESTERSHIRE M A Lynch not out .

Lancashire v Worcestershire

Water Hoger not out 9
Extras (B8 w15 rb4) 27
Fatal (for 6, 50 overs) 274
Fatal 1-20 2-100 3-124 4-193 5-237 6-

247. Did not bet: PJ Martin, 6 Yates, RJ Green. Bowling: Newport 9-1-45-2; Haynes 10-1-55-0; Sheriyar 10-0-65-1; Brinkley 2-0-18-0; Hick 9-0-42-1; Leathertale 10-0-41-1. WORCESTERSHIRE
"T M Moody c Yeles b Martin
W P C Weston c Hogg b Wash W P C Weston c Hegg b Wasim
G A Hick c Hegg b Martin
G R Haynes c Athenton b Martin
V S Solanki ibw b Yates

K R Spang not out 32
D A Leatherdale run out 7
(\$ J Rhodes Biv 6 Austin 0
P J Newport c Green b Wessin 20
Extras (b6 w14 nb6) 26
Total (for 8, 50 overs) 24
Yest: 1.26 2.156 3.156 4.196 5.235 6246 7.248 8.274
Did not bat: J E Brinkley, A Sheriyer,
Bowling: Wessin 10-1-31-2; Austin 10-042-1; Martin 10-0-56-3; Green 7-0-53-0; Yates 10-0-71-1: Gellan 3-1-15-0.
Gold award: T M Moody (Moroastershire).
Umpires: B J Meyer and P Wiley.

Middlesex v Somerset LORD'S: Somerset have scored 272 for 4 off 38 overs against Middlesex. Today: 12.0.

SOMERSET M. N. Lathwell c Weekes b Hewitt . s C Eccle Mon R J Harden not out ... Extras (b4 tb9 w16) . Total Nor 4. 98 or

MBDDLESE)C P N Weekes, J H Malls, S P Mof-far, *M W Gatting, J C Pooley, †K R Brown, K P Dutch, R A Fay, J P Hewrit, R L Johnson, A R C Fases: sec D J Constant and A G T Whitehead

Northants v Leicestershire Lalcestershire won toss

Surrey v Sussex. THE CHAL: Surrey was by 11 runs. Sussex won idse

N Shahki not out .. M P Bicknell not out .

I The openers Steve Dean and secure a long overdue victory. Downpatrick or Glasgow.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD Falls: 1-101 2-125 3-247 4-260 5-267 6-270 7-273 8-300.
Did not bat: 1 E Benjamin.
Bowling: Janvis 10-1-60-4; Khan 10-0-70-1; Robinson 9-0-54-0; Thursfield 8-0-49-2; Philips 10-0-46-0; Greenfield 3-0-17-1. SUSSEX K Greenfield run out

Greenfield run out
K Rao b Ratchiffe
I R Taylor o Butcher b Ratchife
A Nawel b Salisbury
W J Athey b Salisbury
W J Athey b Salisbury
W Jen/is not out
N C Philips b Salisbury
A A Khan Row b Salisbury
M J Thursfield run out M A Robinson run out Extras (b10 w3 nb8) 21 Total (48.5 overs) 299 Fall: 1-93 2-151 3-206 4-268 5-275 6-

277 7-277 8-279 9-283 Bowling Bicknell 10-0-59-0; Benjamin 10-0-60-1; B C Holliceke 4.5-0-43-0; A J Hol-floake 6-0-32-0; Selisbury 10-0-53-4; Rateliffe 8-0-42-2. Gold award: 1 D K Selisbury (Sussex). Umpirea: G I Burgass and K E Palmer.

Yarkshire v Minor Counties Yorkshire won toss

A McGrath not out
C White c Gaywood b Sharp
If J Blakey not out
Extras (b1 lb8 w17 nb6).....
Total (for 5, 50 overs) DOWNPATRICK: Ireland v Esser. GLASGOW (Titwood): Scotland v Nottinghan

Pail: 1-70 2-128 3-128 4-136 5-197. Did not bet: B Perker, D Gough, C E W Silverwood, R D Stemp. Bowling: Murphy 10-0-80-0; Sharp 10-0-53-1; Datton 10-0-80-0; Oakes 10-1-37-3; Laudat 10-0-70-1. MINOR COUNTIES

W Larkins b White

N R Gaywood c McGrath b Vaughan

1 Cockbain b White

Fall: 1-63 2-77 3-77 4-105 5-105 6-123 Bowling: Gough 6-0-25-0; Silverwood 5-0-26-1; White 7-1-22-3; Hartley 6-0-28-2; Stemp 9-3-22-3; Vaughen 0.3-0-0-1. Gold award: A McGrath (York

Umplines: M J Kitchen and A A Jones.

No play vesterday Today: 11.0. DERBY: Derbyshire v Warwickshire.

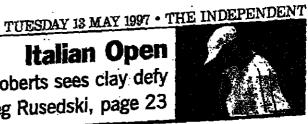
Starting today SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (First day of four, 11.0): Trant Bridge: Notinghamshire v Derbyshire. Hove: Sussex v Surrey. BAIN HOGG TROPHY (One day, 11.0): West-bory (Old Belacilland): Gloucestershire v Glem-organ. Maldstone: Kent v Essex.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

IFFA UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP Intermedia round second leat Portugal v England (5-0) (at A gra de Merolano, Acoresi. PORTINS L'ASQUE Premier Division: Manches Uni v Stoka (7-0) ett Bury FC?. TESTIMONIAL MATCHES: Migel Wissers v Rangers (8.0), Francia Benadi: Sou Lengte Middenerry XI (7.30). EWELL TO ROKER PARK MATCH; Sunderland MY WEST COUNTES LEAGUE Floodist Tropby - Namedouth Tribot y Paratto 17,451 (at Cithern) FC). WINISTOVELEAD KENT LEAGUE First Division 18.30% Cray v Henre Bay, Crockenhill v Slade Gree Greenwich Borough v Deel.

Rugby League





Hodgson wants Sforza to follow him to Blackburn.



Ince: Staying in Italy?

ALAN NIXON

Blackburn Rovers are hoping to bring over Ciriaco Sforza from Internazionale to link up again with the English coach, Roy Flodgson, who will be making the same switch this summer. It could cost Rovers 13m to accerimodate Hodgson's wish for the Swiss midfielder to follow him from Milan. Hodgson groomed Sforza for the Swiss national side when he was their

Hodgson plans five major signings this summer with the backing of Rovers' owner, Jack Walker, and Sforza is one player he confident of capturing. Hodgson's other targets apparently include Milan's French striker Christophe Dugarry, the Monaco pair Ali Benarbia and Emmanuel Petit, and the Swedes Anders Andersson, a midfielder, and Pascal Simpson,

Paul Ince has apparently been offered an improved twoyear contract by Inter's president, Massimo Moratti, in a bid to keep him in Italy.

Graham Taylor is back, althe season, slipping out of the Robertson for Leeds United, most, to square one. The former Second Division play-off places the fee for the 28-year-old Scot-England manager, who has been working as general manager at Watford, has assumed agreed to extend his 11-year career with Southampton, folcontrol of team affairs at Viclowing the club's Premiership arage Road, where he was man-

reverting from team manager to first-team coach. Since Elton John returned to as we're in the Premier League Watford for his second spell as chairman, the club have also announced a restructuring of the

ager from 1977 to 1987. Taylor

will also continue as general

manager, with Kenny Jackett

after drawing too many games. Matthew Le Tissier has

survival at the weekend. "T'll still be here next season," he said. "I've always been a strong supporter of the club and I've made my views clear. What I've said all along is that as long

I would be happy to stay."

If, as he expects, George
Graham completes the signing
of the Rangers defender David at the comprehensive and train

with the Premiership club in their spare time. tish international is likely to be decided by the home international tribunal. The Scottish

for Robertson, but Leeds are believed to willing to offer only Arsenal have signed a £250,000 deal with a local school to help develop future The scheme is the brainchild Highbury players. They have teamed up with Highams Park School to allow a selection of

champions want around £1.5m

promising 14-year-old foot-

ballers to join the academic roll

Richard Carr, an Arsenal director who will become one of

the school's governors, said: "We're very excited by the idea. In three years time we will have 30 talented young footballers based at the school who will be able to hone their skills every evening after they complete an hour's supervised homework."

of Liam Brady, who is Arsenal's head of youth development Kilmarnock will ask for extra Scottish Cup final tickets after selling their 23,000 allocation for Premiership title in five years.

the match at Ibrox on 24 May. Hundreds of fans have been turned away from Rugby Park following the public sale of tickets for the clash with Falking the club's first final for 37 years Killmarnock's club secretary

dyke! We were sold out in a fe hours." Falkirk, of the Firs Division, sold the 7.500 ticket they put on public sale. Alex Ferguson was named a the Carling Manager of the Yea yesterday, after leading Marchester United to their fourth

Kevin Collins, said: "The tick

ets disappeared like snow off

Taylor's form troubles the **Ashes tourists**

coach, before taking him to

Cricket

It began with what looked suspiciously like a Shane Warne propaganda video, littered with Pommie batsmen being haplessly unravelled to the accompaniment of some moody guitar from Dire Straits. But if the idea came from the frothy world of their new sponsors. Coca-Cola, the remainder of the Australians' press conference was as

grey-green suits, the presence of which is surely the real reason the team stopped-off in Hong Bleary-eyed - though nothing to suggest that any of them had toppled David Boon's milehigh record of beer imbibing they do not look like the ar-

chetypal Aussie cricketers of

yore, when bristling moustach-

es above yellow and green-

22 England, first one-day international

15 Duke of Norfolk's XI

24 England,

31-2 Derbyshire

JUNE

sensible as their nondescript

striped blazers made them appear as exotic and dangerous as a tropical snake.

Once the video gloat-fest had finished and the lights had been flicked back on, Michael Parkinson, the invited master of ceremonies, declared the "bunfight" open. It was an interesting term to choose and one that, given England's presence, many in the Australia media believe to be an appropriate description of this summer's Ashes.

But if the gauntlet was down between the two press factions, it was left to Mark Taylor, their left-handed captain, to pat back the usual diplomatic pleasantries about how the "Ashes was the ultimate in cricket" and that it was 'nil-all at the monent" before buckling down to defend the slightly trickier ques-tions regarding his lack of runs.

"My form has been terrible," agreed Taylor, who has failed to pass 50 in his last 20 Test imnings. Australia tour itinerary

19-23 ENGLAND Second Test

(Long)

9-7 ENGLAND Third Test Old Trafford

ENGLAND

(Leicester) 21-25 ENGLAND Shift Yest (The Oval)

16-18 Glamorgan

24-28

5-9 ENGLAND First Test (Edgbaston) .7-11 ENGLAND

AUGUST

1-4 Somersel

(lesmond)

Fourth Test (Headingley)

.(Taunton)

Fifth Test (Trent Bridge)

(Arundel) 25-27 British Univer

"Mind you, I firmly believe that whether or not someone is in or out of form, they are only

At which point he cited his innings of 98, made against Somerset, as a personal watershed on the 1989 tour. "Up to that point my highest score was 11. People have been saying that I'm giving myself until the third Test to get a score. I don't have a schedule - but what I do have to do is prove myself to myself. as well as the other selectors. that I'm one of the best two openers in the side."

The tribulations of their captain do not disguise the fact that the Australians are a side in transition. Having recently lost several "legends" - such as Al-lan Border, David Boon and Craig McDermott - they are in the process of rebuilding.

Theoretically, then, they could be vulnerable, particularly if their four key players - Shane Warne, the Waugh twins and Glenn McGrath - do not fire early on. Whether or not England can exploit any lapses is another matter; if Australia regularly post scores of more than 380 in their first innings,

For that reason, England must pour all efforts, both physical and strategic, into their bowling - and that includes the pitches which, assuming the compliance of the groundsmen, should either be slow green seamers or raging turners.

The second option may sound daft but given that the wrist-spin of Warne and Michael Bevan is likely to turn



Waugh and peace: Australian's captain, Mark Taylor (left), and his No 2, Steve Waugh, set the tone for the Ashes yesterday

on any surface other than a sheet of glass, the Australian batsmen may as well be put un-

spinning finger was operated on a year ago this month, is likely to be a pivotal figure. He reckons be is back close to his best. and if a swollen knuckle means he has had to cut down on the "bingo" deliveries, his role as a 30-overs-a-day stock bowler belies the sheer mayhem he will

Considering that the Ashes holds such great cultural importance, the Australians'

preparation for the series ap-. pears to be relatively casual. With the traditional curtain-raiser against the Duke of Norfolk's have just six one-day matches (including the three Texaco fixtures) and two three-day games before the first Test at Edgbaston. If the long overdue rain continues to fall, Australia could be as underprepared for this series as England were in Zimbabwe.

However, such a brief period of preparation almost certainly means that Australia know what side they will play in should the South Australian

both the one-dayers and the be the player forced to make Tests. The sides probably will not differ beyond one or two be to reconsider their recent policy of playing just two frontline pacemen, McGrath and Jason Gillespie, alongside the

Changing that format means breaking up their powerful middle-order, though the burgeoning assurance of the exciting left-hander, Matthew Elliot at No 3, ought to offset the absence of Greg Blewett

way for an extra seam bowler. Australians are an unsentiplaces and unless the pitches are mental bunch, not used to nur- or not. Waugh is still the hunturing their weak. Which is why Taylor's progress or lack of it over the coming weeks may

be crucial to England's chances. 'Tubs", as the Aussie skipper is known, is a fine tactical captain whose gambler's instinct has conjured some famous Aussie victories. With him at the helm. Australia keep winning important Tests. However, they lose them as well, which may not be the case should Steve Waugh. the hard flint at the heart of the

Aussie monolith, assume the po-

in Sergus: a

.....

ANIRO BEIN

sition during the summer.
Whether he becomes captain griest batsmen on the planet. England's bowlers will do well to remember that over the coming months.

ING INOUITS.

AUSTRALIAN TOUR SQUAD: M A Taylor (CRE
NSW, LHB, Age 32, Tests 61); 5 R Wangh Mosi
card INSW, RHB, RFM, 31, 86% M J Sister RSW,
RHB, 27, 34; M T & GROOT (MICHON), LHB: 25;
5); 3 L Langler (WA, LHB, 28, 8); R T Portising
(Restrance, RHB, 08, 22, 6% M E Wangle NSW,
RHB, RFM/OB, 31, 63); 8 S Blennett SSA, RHB,
RFM/F, 25 10); M & Berean NSW, LHB, 32, 887;
5 K Werne (Victoria, RHB, LBC, 27, 52); A J Bichell
(Queensland, RHB, RFM, 28, 27, 82); A J Bichell
(Queensland, RHB, RFM, 28, 27, 82); A J Bichell
(Queensland, RHB, RFM, 28, 27, 82); A J Bichell
(NSW, RHB, RF, 27, 28); J N GIResphe (NSW,
RHB, RF, 27, 28); J N GIResphe (NSW,
RHB, RF, 27, 518 P J Oliman (WA, RHB, LFM, 26,
7); A C Gilchrist (WA, Wd, LHB, 24, Or, M S
Kesprovetez (Queensland, RHB, RF, 25, 21).

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

ACROSS Bloated girl cries with pain on being turned over (7)

Range of vessels seen in West of England river (7) Wants to be observed returning, carrying daughter 10 Backing musical run with

organised account (9)
11 No art badly displayed in part of book would secure 28 12 One barely seen accepting

good prod (5)
13 Iwisted roots leading to

15 Get rid of talking bird that's among the best (9) 18 Local government have building in back street (4,5) 3 19 Empty accommodation to

sell on the stock exchange? 21 Down, a direction from

which you could get this? 23 Twice taking time, badly deceive a policeman (9)

Mexican food chain deal's off (9) Couldn't do better to catch

a wild animal (5) People would be in the wrong causing such suffering (7)
Way-out old time branch of

forces (7)
DOWN Components for making narrow land a child's play

About to lose game delib-See about animal which could be caught by this (5) Neil in fancy apron, quite the reverse of this type (9)

In poetry, always, that is

O Published by Newspaper Publishing PLC, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lundon E14 5DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, Se

Toxiday 13 May 1997

Repateurd as a newspaper with the Post Off

weird (5) Litigant has clear argument

Nymph could provide new road publicity (5) Former spouse, English has to receive note from

Bible expert (7) Second possibility implying first is foolish? (9) 16 During part of weekend I had a meal, not getting enough (9)

17 Hate having no time in ease (9) 18 You could fly off at this in endless anger, explosive all

round (7) erately this could give runs 20 By entering in that place away (9) you could find the stage (7) Wallpaper etc. made cor-rect inside (5)

Plan day on simple craft (5) Old measure of copper had Lancashire losing grip est 49 with six wickets in hand. ion steps. In the last three sea-

JON CULLEY

reports from Old Trafford Lancashire 274-6 Worcestershire 274-8 Lancashire win by losing fewer wickets

Lancashire, winners for the last two seasons, are effectively out of the Benson and Hedges Cup despite a last-ball victory at Old Trafford yesterday that left them technically still in the competition.

Even if Warwickshire defeat Derbyshire today in a match held over because of the weather, leaving three counties in Group A tied on six points behind Yorkshire, Lancashire's run-rate is so inferior to Warwickshire's they could not go

The holders won yesterday by losing fewer wickets after a wicket off the last ball left Worcestershire's 50-over score equal to Lancashire's, an unexpected outcome given that the Midlands side had entered the last 10 overs needing a relatively mod-

But after a brave catch by Michael Atherton had taken Gavin Haynes out of the equation, Worcestershire went to pieces, giving away three wickets for 13 runs between the 42nd and 45th overs, David Leatherdale running himself

out and Steven Rhodes going

lbw to his first ball.

The target came down to nine off the last, in which Wasim Akram proved as difficult to get away as Ian Austin had in the previous one. Philip Newport ran two off the first ball and then Wasim gave Worcestershire a real chance by conceding a noball with his second delivery.

port's attempt to secure victory with another off the last ball resulted in an easy catch for Richard Green at mid-on, It was an especially frustrating finish for Worcestershire's captain, Tom Moody, who looked to have played the match-winning innings, a splendid 92 off 83 halls. Moody has become the opponent Lancashire least like to see bounding down the pavil-

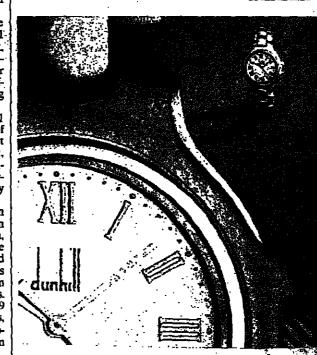
But after three singles, New-

sons, their bowlers have conceded 649 runs to him in all forms of cricket.

He allowed them no respite estenday in a partnership of 131 in 17 overs with Graeme Hick. setting Worcestershire up nicely to chase the total of 274 for 6 that accrued to Lancashire after the decision of their acting captain, Wasim, to bat first.

Moody's innings included 11 fours and three sixes, one of which, during a sustained assault on Gary Yates's off-spin, cleared the two-tier Statham-Washbrook stand, endanger ing tram passengers. Moody earned the Gold Award.

Lancashire's innings, in squally conditions, began with another failure by Atherton, whose form must be giving the watching England coach, David Lloyd, cause for concern. His tally with the bat this season stands at 95 from seven innings. Happily, Jason Gallian, with 59 off 55 balls including 10 fours, and Neil Fairbrother, with a typically hard-working unbeaten 75, were in much better form.



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'Tigermania' engulfs Woods

In his first post-Masters golfing appearance, Tiger Woods conducted a four-hour clinic and exhibition for hundreds of young players on Sunday, answering their questions about his life since his remarkable 12-shot victory at

Woods, joined by his parents Earl and Kultida, said he was enjoying the worldwide attention generated by his record victory, but was saddened by some of the media stories and coverage of his private life.

"I never dreamt Tigermania would be like this, but I think this is great for the game of golf, because it's bringing all of you into the game," he said. On Thursday Woods will

play his first PGA tournament in five weeks - the GTE Byron Nelson Classic in Dallas, Texas, He is also scheduled to play the following week at the Master-Card Colonial at Fort Worth, Texas. The latter event will be Woods' first face-to-face meeting with Fuzzy Zoeller, who generated a storm of controversy with his post-Masters com-

ments about Woods.

Woods was introduced at the invitation-only clinic by Byron Nelson, the golfing legend who gave his name to this week's PGA event.

I said the first time I saw Tiger play, he was the best 15year-old golfer I had ever seen. He was the best 16-year-old, 17, 18, 19, 20 and now 21-year-old golfer. I've never seen anything like it." Nelson said.

The tournament is totally sold out for the first time in its 30-year history, with officials expecting crowds to exceed 100,000 on both Saturday and

